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Business.

To consider the following resolution:—"That the Committee, owing to the financial position of the Association, recommend that the Annual Subscription be raised from 10s. to 15s. a year."

By Order of the Executive Committee,
C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

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WANTED, Musical Attractions Only.
Apply, W. J. ANDREWS,
Her Majesty's Theatre,
Walsall.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or Revue, Feb. 13. MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY ST. EDMUND'S.
WANTED, First-class Company, not dramas,
Monday next.
Also Feb. 16, 17, 18, to follow Robert Courtneidge's "Arcadians." W. BELAMY, 361, Brixton-rd., S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, April 3 and 17 (Easter week), May 15, 22, June 5, Aug. 7, on, with exceptions. Apply, J. GLADWIN, Empire, Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRE ROYAL, CASTLEFORD.
WANTED, through obliging, First-class Once-nightly Attraction, six nights, Feb. 6, 1922.
Address, HARRY MASTERMAN, Manager.

WANTED, Number One Revue, Feb. 6. Feb. 6. Feb. 6.
Apply,
NAT DAY'S AGENCY,
59, New Oxford-street, W.C.
Wire "Varitism. Westcent, London."

T.R., CHATHAM.
WANTED, FIRST-CLASS WEST-END ATTRACTION, Feb. 6.
Wire, COHEN & BARNARD, 40, Gerrard-street, W. 1.
Regent 782. "Playlet, 'Phone, London."

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"SCANDAL."
WANTED, Spring Dates.
Apply,
ARTHUR HARDY,
89, Pall Mall, S.W. 1.

The "Real Thing" in Western Play.
"YOUNG BUFFALO."
Supported by a specially selected company of English and American Artistes.
The Lyceum Theatre Production.
"THE SAVAGE AND THE WOMAN."
By Arthur Shirley and Ben Lancecx.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, with large holding capacity.
A. MELVILLE, Lyceum Theatre, W.C. 2

THE LEONARD LAURENCE CO., in
"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and
HIGH-CLASS REPERTOIRE.
WANTED, Monday next. Monday next
Wanted, Monday next. Monday next, Wanted, Monday next. Monday next, Jan. 30 and Feb. 6. Jan. 30 and Feb. 6.
LAURENCE, Hippodrome, Selby, Yorks.

"ALL THE BEST."
The Small Revue with the Big Punch.
WANTED Known, unexpectedly vacant, Monday (Midlands or Yorks). Halls running at touring managers' expense keep it. TOFT, Winter Hall, Leamington Spa. (5th visit).

WANTED, Monday next. Jan. 30, Midlands preferred, for JOHNSON YAXLEY'S REVUE,
"WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?"
3 Scenes. 20 People.
Wire or 'phone,
GEORGE BLISS' AGENCY,
1, Castle-street, Birmingham.
Telegrams, Comedy.
'Phone, Cen. 953.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres or Music Halls, Midlands, "THE CINDERELLA MAN." Entire Queen's Theatre Production, March 2 (3 nights), March 6, 13, and 20. Also for Big London Productions, Feb. 27, March 13, 27, April 3 and 17.
HORSFIELD, Offices 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C.2.
Telephone: Gerrard 7167.

HENRY OSCAR and W. EDWARD STIRLING'S LONDON PLAYERS in
"THE SPECKLED BAND."
By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. (After the recent successful revival at St. James's and Royalty Theatres.)
Only First-class Theatres entertained.
WANTED, Feb. 27, onwards (to follow Brighton). Henry Oscar as Sherlock Holmes. W. Edward Stirling as Dr. Grimesby Rylott.
Until Feb. 4, Repertory Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, Jan. 30, for the Big Comedy Show,
"STOP WINKING."
Exceptional Cast. All Artists.
Refer Messrs. Barnards, Woolwich, last week.
Wire for Monday Next. Wire.
McELROY, Theatre, Worthing.

THEATRES WANTED.

C. A. STEPHENSON'S Musical Productions. 8th year of tour.
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 6-13.
"ALADDIN."
Feb. 6, 13 (follow Torquay).
"SPANISH ROMANCE."
Vacant for Spring Dates
This, Coliseum, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Theatres, once or twice nightly, for
"THE ROTTERS."
The Funniest Play Ever Produced.
Vacant Feb. 13, 27, March 27, April 3, 10, 17, and May 22.
Apply ARTHUR GIBBONS,
C/o Martin Henry, 19, Bow-street, W.C.2.
Gerrard 6363.

"THE JEFFERSONS." 5th year of tour.
"THE PARTNERS." 2nd year of tour.
Wilfrid Shine in his original characters.

WANTED, Feb. 20, March 20, April 17, Aug. 14.
Three nights each play if desired.
A. DOUGLASS,
Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 30, FRED D. ALBERT, M.M., and CO. in the Novelty Musical Play,
"DESTINY."
Featuring Little Frances, the phenomenal child vocalist. A sure draw on any bill.
Wire for Mon. Vac. Jan. 30, Feb. 27.
All coms., Emmire. Newbridge, Mon.

Albert de Courville's Production,
"THE VERY IDEA."
With Easten Pickering.
WANTED, March 6, 20, April 17.
HALDANE CRICHTON,
Hippodrome, Llanelly.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 30.
"GIRL O' MY HEART," romantic musical play; also Feb. 6, 13. Wire for Monday, Printing ready.
GEO. A. DE GRAY, 9, Frampton-terrace, Gainsboro'.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

NOTE.—For special "Theatres Wanted" announcements of members of the Association of Touring Managers see page 5.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for immediate West-End production, Tenors, Altos, Baritones, and Bass (not chorus men), to sing in male octette, play small parts, and make themselves useful; must be young, tall, and of smart appearance. Audition, Bedford Music Hall, High-street, Camden Town, Thursday, Jan. 26, at 1 p.m.

WANTED, high-class Vocalists, male and female, for cinemas, &c.; interview by appointment only. Write, MME. GERALDINE ULMAR, c/o Weeks, 14, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for forthcoming British productions. Apply, MAITT & MYERS, Variety and Cinema Artists' Agents, Angle House, 1, Litchfield-street, W.C. Regent 5754, 3917. Telegrams, "Maimye, Piccy." Will artists known to me write, enclosing photograph?

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 181, Wardour-street, W.1. 'Phone, Regent 4329.

"CRACKERS."
WANTED, Smart Chorus Ladies, able to dance and sing well; good figures, 5ft. 5in. Apply, 60, Camberwell New-road (Kennington Church end), to-day (Wednesday), 11 a.m.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Young Lady, Mezzo-Contralto. VOCALIST, 9, Scarsdale-terrace, Kensington, W. 8.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Vocalist, Mezzo-Contralto, or would join refined Concert Party. Box 336, "The Era."

WANTED Known, DOLLY VERNON, Versatile Sop., Soub., Dancer, also Low Comedy Girl. Vacant for C.P., R., M.C., or M.H.A. Wire, 4, Edwards-road, Whitley Bay.

WANTED Known, IVY GRANT, the Dainty Yodelling Comedienne, playing Prin. Girl, Alice, in Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's panto., "Dick Whittington." Jan. 23, Hip., Preston. Vac. Feb. 20, 27. Per. add., 23, Union-st., Ardwick, Manchester.

THE FIVE DACIERS,
Vocalists and all-round Dancers. Apache, Schottische, Acrobatic. Four specialities. Own dresses. 5 Ladies.
WANTED Known, vacant for Revue or Panto., Feb. 6. Write best offers. This, MANAGER, 24, Culver-st., Halifax. Next week, 8, Battye-street, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by a First-class Acrobatic Comedian, for Revue or Variety Act, with bookings. Played Alfred Lester's part in "Bing Boys (Let's Go)," Revue, &c. Address, B. BAKER, Poste Restante, G.P.O., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Gent. (young), height 5ft. 5½in., dark, Light Com. or any Small Part and Understudy (non-singing), in good Farcical Comedy. Play, or Revue; experienced; willing to accept moderate salary for long tour. J. B. SPENDLOVE, 130, Kennington-road, London, S.E.11.

WANTED Known, REG. WOODHOUSE, Versatile Com. (with Bass Voice). At liberty. No. 1 C.P. Res. Pref. P.A., 219, Bradford-road, Huddersfield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

MARGATE ENTERTAINERS.
RAMSGATE YACHTSMEN.
SANDS CONCERT PARTIES.
WANTED, Artists (Male) for the above well-known Parties; must be refined, young, smart, on and off the stage. Open-air. Three times daily. Long season. Commence Whitsun. Full particulars and where can be seen in or near London. HARRY GOLD, 48, King-street, Ramsgate.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

CELLSUS.
CELLSUS.
The White Wizard.
The White Wizard.
Beautiful and Wonderful Magical Number.
Roars of Laughter.
THE REAL NOVELTY SHOW.
WANTED, Monday Next. Wire, Hippodrome, Lowestoft. (Topping.) Assisted by Miss Egypt Nirvana. Six sheets. Shares or salary. A PHENOMENAL SUCCESS EVERYWHERE.

WANTED, by Conjurer and Card Expert. Capital Tricks. Engagement with anyone. Concert or stage. £5 weekly. WERREN, 36, Bell-street, Wolverhampton.

The Ventriloquist on the Wire.
REX FOX.
With Inimitable Wire Stunts.
WANTED,
Jan. 30, Feb. 5, 13.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 6 and 13, by JACK STRAND, Refined Comedian and Eccentric Dancer. Wire for a Safety Act, Opera House, Leicester.

WANTED, Monday next, JOE COOKSON, Modern Ventriloquist, Funny Act. Wire, Public Hall, Alexandria, N.B.

WANTED, Jan. 30, ZARMO, Comedy Juggling Expert. Elaborate apparatus. Big Draw. 6 S. Posters. Share or Cert.
86, Carlingford-road, West Green, London.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 6, 13, by BUNNY and DAWE, good Comedy Speciality Act. Wire, this, 61, Camberwell New-road, London.

WANTED, Monday Next, by ATLAS VULCANA GIRLS (to precede Belfast. Add., ATLAS, Gosford Lodge, Fulham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 6, "THE ZILLAH FOUR." Refined Vocal and Musical Act. Wire for a sure draw, including Soprano Coon-Comedienne and Piano. 30 minutes if required. Empire, Stranraer

KAMAKURA FAMILY,
KAMAKURA FAMILY,
Japanese Conjurers, introducing their Celebrated Enchanted Fountains.
WANTED, Feb. 6, on. This, 9, Osnaburgh-street, Regent's Park, London. Jan. 30, P., Chatham.

WANTED Known,
Wire for Monday next,
5 DANCING VESTAS 5
Coliseum, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 6, ROYAL BLUE FOLLIES, and Full Variety Bill. Ten well-known performers. Wire RICHARDS, Town Hall, Fenny Stratford, Bucks.

WANTED, few Immediate Dates; just finishing 3 months' success ful tour with Miss Bateman's "A Peep Behind the Scenes," Chard's Canine Wonders, and Major Mite, the Talking and Dancing Pony, 27 inches high; can top any London programme; any size stage. CHARD, 43, Talbot-st., Lye.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hodgini's Circus, Tenting Season in Ireland, commencing March 6, 1922:—
Big Wild Animal Act.
Male and Female Riders, with or without own horses; Ground and Aerial Acts
Musical Clown and August,
And a Good Band.
Address, E. HODGES, Circus, Langford, Ireland.

WANTED, for Tenting, Riders, with own Horses. C. Becket, please write. CHAS. GINNETT, 6, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

DACRE LOUIS,
Advance Agent.
WANTED Known, at liberty now and for Circus Tenting Season.
Refs. if required.
Address,
C/o The STADIUM, Sunderland.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, first-class Gala Acts for June, onwards. WILL. TEMPLE, Fête Contractor, 15, Cromwell-street, Nottingham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violinist-Director, with own library, for trio (pictures). CASINO, Herne Bay.

WANTED, a Lady Violinist-Leader; thoroughly experienced; young; permanency; London restaurant. Box 399, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin Leader (Lady). Seaside Hotel. Good tone and experience essential. Terms, &c., Box 381, "The Era."

WANTED, to open Feb. 6, First-class Leader, for Cinema (with library preferred); about 4½ hours per day. No Sundays. Apply, with references and lowest terms in first letter, to BERTRAM, Picture Theatre, Maidenhead.

WANTED, brilliant Leader-Violinist, gent., also first-class Lady Pianist, Orchestral, for London Café. Apply, GRAY, 12, Archer-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Leader, for trio; used to fitting pictures; hours 5.30 to 7.30, 8.15 to 10, Sunday, 5.30 to 7, 7.30 to 9; two matinées. Lowest terms and refs. to M. D., 7, Cargate-avenue, Aldershot.

WANTED, Violinist-Leader. Suburban Cinema; continuous (no Sunday). State age, experience, and lowest, Box 414, "The Era."

WANTED, Good First Violinist, also Good Repet. Call to-day (Wednesday), 2.30, Electric Theatre, Westow-hill, Upper Norwood.

WANTED, immediately, Violinist, for Trio (Lady or Gent.). Pictures. Evenings only. Must have good tone, and be able to read at sight (Tavan and Alder, &c.), also able to follow Pianiste-Conductress. Full parc., refs., and terms to MANAGER, Berridge Picture House, Nottingham.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, for Trio in Super Cinema. Must have good tone and fully conversant with the standard music. Good salary. Three performances daily. No Sundays. Open Monday, Feb. 6. Apply, stating full particulars, age, exper., refs., to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 7, Percy-road, Chester.

WANTED, a very fine Repetiteur for Lond. Hotel, £6 6s. weekly. Apply, Box 394, "The Era."

WANTED, good Cornet for Cinema Orchestra. Apply, to-day, Wednesday, 5.45, ELECTRIC THEATRE, Westow Hill, Upper Norwood.

WANTED, immediately, a Clarinet Player for Mediterranean Cruise. Apply, ALFRED RIESS, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, immediately, Saxophone and Violin (two friends) for Dance Band in New Brighton, Cheshire. Apply, ALFRED RIESS, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, experienced 'Celliste for Quartette; hours, 5 daily; no Sundays. State terms and particulars, Box 406, "The Era."

WANTED, Good 'Celliste (Young Lady), for short tour with well-known Musical Combination. Particulars and terms to
Box 403, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Solo 'Cellist for Cinema; 6 nights and 3 matinées, to open Monday, Feb. 6; must be thoroughly experienced. State terms, age, and ref. to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 10, Wellington-avenue, Whalley Range, Manchester.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, 'Celliste—possibly Violiniste later. Good players (not necessarily fully experienced). Midlands Cinema. Immediate. Terms, &c., Box 405, "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cellist; must be good; experienced cinema work; audition Wed., 6.30; Thurs., 3. MAJESTIC CINEMA, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, for cinema, to complete trio; must be thoroughly competent or useless; six evenings, three matinées. Terms to MANAGER, Melbourne Picture House, Leicester.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Feb. 6, Experienced 'Cellist (Gent.). Must be familiar with the highest class of music. Good sight-reader essential. Once nightly and one matinée. Those out for fancy prices, save stamps. Apply, with refs. and lowest terms, to MR. F. J. SHAW, A.R.C.M., Musical Director, Scala Cinema, Boston, Lincs.

WANTED, for Mediterranean Cruise, immediately, 'Cello and First Violin. Interviews only. ALFRED RIESS, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, evenings only, for Liverpool. Apply, DELMONTE'S, 22, Lord-street, Liverpool.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for Permanency. Superior and experienced player. Apply, WALTER HAGUE, Musical Director.

WANTED, Experienced 'Cellist (Lady or Gentleman), mornings and afternoons; lunch and tea provided. No Sundays. Terms, &c., HOWARD, Café Royal, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancs.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo Player, Theatre Business. Terms, age, and refs. to BINGLEY, 1, Cavendish-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, immediately, for Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool, First-class Flautist (combine Piccolo); both pitches necessary. Must be good soloist, well experienced in all branches of work and of good appearance. Written applications, stating age, terms, and references, to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Organist.
Apply,
Box 369, "The Era."

KINGSLAND EMPIRE.

WANTED, Orchestral Organist.
Apply to-day (Wednesday), 2.45, as above.

WANTED, immediately, Orchestral Organist to Combine Relief Piano. Evenings only. Audition this afternoon, 2.30. MANAGER, Scala Cinema, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Relief Pipe-Organist at large S.E. London Cinema; state experience and salary required; 4½ hours, from 2 o'c. to 10 o'c. Box 419, "The Era."

WANTED, exp. Orch.-Pianiste (lady). Deputise, Jan. 30 till Feb. 11. Call, Friday, 4 till 5, MUSWELL HILL ELECTRIC THEATRE.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, Vocalist preferred; 25s.; live in; photos returned. A. HARDAKER, Bowling Green Inn, Otley, Yorks.

WANTED, Feb. 6, Brilliant Solo Pianist; large library; able to fit pictures, extemporise; comfortable sit.; country town. Full particulars to CROSSLEY, Cinema, Ledbury.

PALACE, BURNLEY.

WANTED, First-class Pianist. Variety. M.U. terms. Apply, MUS. DIR.

WANTED, Orch.-Pianist, gent., must be experienced in variety and pictures; sobriety essential; high-class music played, so duds are not required. SWALES, Pavilion, Alloa, N.B.

WANTED immediately, first-class, thor. exp. Orch. Pianist; pictures; six evenings, one matinée. Terms, full pars., H. DENNE, St. James' Theatre, King's Lynn.

WANTED, brilliant Orch. Pianist; café; 4 hours daily; £4 10s. Also 'Cellist, cinema, 6 evenings weekly, £4 5s. Only first-class, experienced men apply, state age, &c., to M. D., 110, Brailsford-road, Fallowfield, Manchester.

WANTED, experienced Cinema Pianist, read at sight, to play with Violinist, small suburban cinema; no Sundays. Age, experience, and terms, Box 416, "The Era."

WANTED, Harpiste for Musical Comedy Production on Tour. Apply, ALFRED RIESS, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Drummer, with own tympani and effects, for cinema, North Wales town; evenings and one matinée. Also smart young Male Leader, used to fitting pictures, and Pianist; audition required. State lowest salry. C. W. & F. N. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Jazz Drummer, for First-class Dance Orchestra in Walthamstow district. Letters only, to R. R., 49, Elmfield-road, E.17.

WANTED, Smart Double Drummer, with effects, for Cinema, evenings only, to play with Violin and Piano. Comfortable situation for a competent man. No vampers required. Apply, stating age, terms. Fare paid. J. REES, Picturedrome, Port Talbot, S. Wales.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Tympanist and Drummer, Cinema. With bells, glock., and full effects. Age, refs., and salary to CONDUCTOR, 43, New-walk, Leicester.

WANTED, Drummer and Effects, experienced, for small Cinema, London. Age, experience, and lowest, Box 415, "The Era."

WANTED, Trio, open Jan. 30. Must be brilliant. Extensive library. Apply, CASINO, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Instrumentalists. Good performers (military band experience) required for eight-week Seaside Engagement. Ex-Army musicians preferred. Further particulars, apply, stating terms, &c., to CLERK TO THE COUNCIL, Town Hall, Felixstowe.

WANTED, a Band of Five Coloured Musicians, for a First-class London Engagement. Address, Box 420, "The Era."

WANTED Known, MARGUERITE LAKE continues to conduct ORCHESTRAL CLASSES every Tuesday and Friday morning at 11 o'c. at 44, Telford-avenue, Streatham, S.W.2., assisted by H. T. NUGENT, Leading Violin. Special tuition for Cinema, Café, Theatre, in Standard Programmes and TAVAN ARRANGEMENTS. Violinists urgently required to train for forthcoming engagements.

APPOINTMENTS FOUND.

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(Three minutes from Westbourne Park Station).
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and
GEORGE BRANDRAM.
Early Bookings Advisable

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MAUD RISELEY, A.R.A.M., Musical Director, Broadway Gardens Cinema, Walham Green, S.W., conducts Orchestral Classes daily for all instruments at Westbourne Park Studios (address above).

Instruction given in standard works, Tavan arrangements, &c.
Music lent for home study.

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Violin and Piano lessons given.

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Complete Orchestra, Trios and Depuries provided at shortest notice.

All Applications for Classes, Orchestras, Trios, Registration (for engagements) to W. E. BOYCOTT.

THE ORCHESTRAL TUITION CLASSES.

NOTICE.

The Manager of the ORCHESTRAL CLASSES DEPT., of the CINEMA BUREAU, 18, CECIL-COURT, W.C., wishes to express his regret that, as a result of our advert. in last week's "Era," he was unable to take into his class all the would-be patrons desirous of joining last week, but, having sent out a goodly number of pupils to work at Various Cinemas in London during the last few days, we have *now* room in the MORNING and EVENING Classes for
ALL INSTRUMENTS.

Those desirous of getting a living by their musical abilities are specially invited to
FREE AUDITION
any morning 10 till 1, or Monday and Thursday evenings 5.30 till 8.30.

Speciality: EFFICIENCY.

WANTED KNOWN,
Full Orchestras, Trios, or Single Instrumentalists supplied at shortest notice.

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Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

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WANTED,
EXPERIENCED ORCHESTRAL PLAYERS—ALL INSTRUMENTS.
(Low Pitch).

Contract for three years. Principal Violin, £600; 1st Instruments, £460; 2nd Instruments, £400 per annum, with three weeks' vacation on full salary.
Second-class passages and half salaries paid on voyage.
Applicants must be of Queen's Hall standard, experienced in highest class modern concert repertoire, and must have played under conductors of European eminence. Duty on six days, but not exceeding 28 hours' weekly.
Apply, H. LYELL-TAYLER,
Director of Music,
Town Hall, DURBAN.

WANTED, Violin and Viola Players, for His Majesty's Grenadier Guards Band. Apply, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Soldier Home, Buckingham Gate.

WANTED, a few first-class Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, Contrabassists, for March to October session, liner orchestras; audition must be given. Terms on application, C. W. & F. N. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire, THE MOVIES LENDING LIBRARY. Excellent repertoire. 164, Queen's-road, Bayswater, Mon. and Thurs., 10.30 to 1 o'clock.

ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOL.
Spring Term, 1922.
WANTED Known,
Classes will be Resumed at
Gordon House,
59, Shepherd's Bush-road, W. 12,
On Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 2.30.
Particulars on application at above address, or 47, Uxbridge-road.

WANTED Known, EASTON'S MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY, Cinemas, &c.; moderate terms Apply, "Elmwood," Atkins-road, Clapham-park, S.W. 12. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

MUSIC ON HIRE.

WANTED Known,
THE LONDON MUSIC LIBRARY, ALGERNON CLARKE, Proprietor.
Supported by Leading Cinemas. Music selected to suit all films. Catalogue 20,000 pieces. Music bought and sold. Musicians and Bands provided for Cinemas and Private Engagements.
ORCHESTRAL CLASSES.
Violin, Viola, and Piano Lessons.
28, Lonsdale-road, Barnes, S.W.
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WANTED Known, NORTH LONDON MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY (up-to-date), cinema, café, &c. Lowest terms. M. W., 13, Ellington-street, Barnsbury.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas; all the latest selections, overtures, &c.; cheapest in trade. GOLDMAN'S, 78-80, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED Known, Orchestration, Composition. (String or Military.) G. A. JAQUES, Borough Theatre, E. 62, Knox-road, Forest Gate, E. 7.

WANTED Known, CINEMA MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY CO., one of the finest repertoires in the country; weekly parcels a speciality. 27, Edwards-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas; latest Tavans, Overtures, &c.; Bergs and Fox incidental music. Lowest terms. HARRY WESTROP, 158 Millfield-road, Clapton, E.5.

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'Phone—GERRARD 7286.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violinists to Please Note.

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VIOLIN E STRING
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String Specialist,
14, Cambridge-street, SHEFFIELD.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical Director, with own band (experienced West-End performers), Engagement at high-class hotel; London only; best refs.; splendid library. 28, Leigham-vale, Streatham, S.W. 16.

WANTED Known, Offers invited for First-class, Young, Energetic Musical Director and his Bijou Orchestra. Four skilled musicians (Leader, Piano, 'Cello, Drums). Can augment if desired. Fine own library, classical and modern. Distinctive picture fitting. Evenings only. London cinema. Write, Box 379, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Musical Director (Baton) disengaged. Ten years' experience. Mus. Com., Revue, Variety; L.R.A.M. (Theatrical Conductorship.) Also 'Cellist and Baritone. Highest references. All coms., Box 366, "The Era."

WANTED, Ent., as Musical Director or LEADER VIOLINIST. First-class references. Audition if necessary. (EXTENSIEV LIBRARY.) N. London preferred. Box 396, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Musical Director (Pianist) or Trio; 18 years' experience; any bus.; library 1,000 pieces. CONDUCTOR, c/o Mackehzie, 281, St. George's-rd., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement by brilliant Pianist (Mus. Dir.), with first-class Leader (with or without small orchestra); highest credentials and Press notices; extensive exp.; pictures and hotel; up-to-date library; good offers only entertained.

Box 407, "The Era."

WANTED Known, the Secretary of the Musical Directors' Section, Musicians' Union, can highly recommend Musical Director (Piano and Baton) for First-class Tour. Apply, CONDUCTOR, c/o C. Greenway, 860, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Change, by Pianist-Conductor, Double Violin; theatre or music hall pref.; 8 years last engt.; £100 library. M. D., 59, Queen-street, Keighley, Yorks.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist-Conductor, Cinema, Concert, Variety Experience. Extensive library. BRINKMAN, 6, The Avenue, Surbiton.

WANTED, by Piano-Conductor, first-class exp., all lines. PAVEY, 75, Alexandra-rd., Norwich.

WANTED, Resident Engt., Conductor Pianist; compose, arrange, &c. ROLAND ALLEN, 31, Caerau-road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED Known, First-class and Well-known Variety Conductor wants Change. 12 years in present engagement. Would accept good offer for Revue. Can open Jan. 30.

CONDUCTOR,
81, Farleigh-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, WIDELY EXPERIENCED AND WELL-KNOWN CONDUCTOR DESIRES CHANGE. Opera, Pictures, Varieties, Touring, &c. REPLIES ONLY INVITED WHERE "ORCHESTRA" IS A FEATURE. Box 404, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Rep., Engt. in East London; Café or Cinema; also experienced Pianist (Jazz and Café); no cinema. Write, MISS RAWKINS, Music Agency, 88, Ashgrove-rd., Goodmayes.

WANTED, Engt., by Repet. (Lady), good tone and reader, exper. Cinema, variety, hotel. M.U. terms. At lib. Distance no object. Box 391, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Rept. or Second Violin; combine Drums; own kit. STEPHENS, 11, Cavendish-gardens, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

WANTED, by Repet. Violin, 2nd, or Viola; experienced varieties, pictures; M.U. CHARLES HIGHFIELD, 26, Station-street, Walsall.

WANTED, London Engt., by Experienced Repetiteur; cinema or café. Also plays piano.

MADAME CRESETO,
12, Beverley-road,
Chiswick, W.4.

WANTED, Engt., Violin Rep.; exp. VIOLINIST. 17, Hornshay-street, Canterbury-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.15.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Rep. (male); cinema; evenings only. 11, Glazbury-road, Baron's Court. W.14. Western 6329.

WANTED Known, Violinist-Repetiteur wants work. Fully experienced. 45, West Hill-road, Southfields, S.W.18. 'Phone, Putney 282.

WANTED Known, experienced Repet Violinist requires Engagement in cinema; start at once. Apply to VIOLINIST, 521, Commercial-road, Stepney, E.1.

WANTED, Engagement in London by good Rep., able to lead, or would deputise at any business. VIOLINIST. 76, Talfourd-road, Peckham, S.E.15.

WANTED Known,
DEPUTY LEADER-VIOLINIST,
at liberty immediately; thoroughly experienced any business, jazz or straight.
Library if required.
Also at liberty as
BANJOLINIST.
Address ZELBA, "Belmont," 107, Highbury New Park, Highbury. Telegrams: "Foxtrot, London."

WANTED, Engagement, by first-class Leader-Violinist, in high-class cinema; with or without organised Orchestra; expert picture fitter; splendid library, 6,000 pieces; present engagement 2½ years; can be heard playing by appointment. Particulars, Box 340, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Leader-Violinist and Orchestral-Pianist, can open immediately; London. 92, Vartry-rd., Stamford Hill. 'Phone, Dalston 753.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Leader Violinist (Lady), thoroughly experienced in Cinema and Variety. Disengaged Monday next. VIOLINIST, Cambridge Theatre, Sheerness, Kent.

WANTED, Engt. by Leader Violiniste (lady); open Jan. 30; any business. VIOLINISTE, 34, Gladstone-street, S.S., Blackpool.

WANTED, BY (LADY) EXPERIENCED LEADER AND SOLOIST, ENGT., CAFE, CINEMA, &C., WITH OR WITHOUT LIBRARY. APP. TO 126, BELMONT-ROAD, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED Known, Engt. as Violiniste-Leader and Pianist or Organist (two) as Musical Directors; experienced cinema and restaurant; large library over 2,000 numbers; distance no object. Terms, &c., to M. D., 41, Woodview, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Leader.
AFTERNOONS ONLY.
High-class experience.
E., 107, Brockley-grove, Crofton Park, S.E. 4.

WANTED, by Leader Soloist (late music hall turn), good engagement in cinema or café; very artistic; with or without his own orchestra; large library. Particulars, ABBOTT, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED Known, First-class Jazz Dance Violinist-Leader, open for dates. G., 157, Turnpike-lane, Hornsey.

WANTED, Engagement, by a FIRST-CLASS LEADER-SOLOIST.
Good offers only.
E., 107, Brockley-grove, Crofton Park, S.E. 4.

WANTED, Engagement, by Leader-Violinist; first-class soloist; can provide library and musicians if necessary. Can open at once. Box 371, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Leader-Soloist. First-class picture experience. Can open at once. Box 372, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist-Leader. Alder, Tavan, Foxtrots, &c. Smart and experienced. Box 373, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist-Leader (Soloist). Can open Monday next. Wire terms, Box 374, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by highly experienced Violinist-Leader, with library. Please state best offer. Box 375, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Violinist, Lead or Repet. Any business. 'Phone, Sydenham 1213. 4d, Douglas-villas, Upper Colfe-road, Forest Hill.

WANTED, Engt. by well-known Violinist-Leader and Soloist, in hotel or café; can supply a first-class trio or quintette; extensive library, with up-to-date music, &c. All coms., VIOLINIST, 25, Frith-street, Shaftesbury-avenue.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader Violinist; experienced Tavan, Alder, Mouton (will give selections). Communicate, Box 395, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Engt. as Violiniste-Leader and Pianist or Organist (two) or Trio, experienced cinema or café; large up-to-date library over 2,000; distance no object. Terms, &c., to M. D., 20, Eldon-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to open Monday next, by first-class Violinist-Leader; high-class experience; smart performer and soloist, of good appearance.
Wire A., Poste Restante, Brighton.

WANTED, Engt. by experienced Lady Violiniste, A.C.V., Tea-rooms, Dances, or Rept. in Cinema. 79, Endlesham-rd., S.W.12.

WANTED, by fine powerful tone Violiniste (young lady), experienced in Orchestral work, engagement with high-class Orchestra. C. LEON, 58, Albert-st., N.W.1.

WANTED, by Violiniste and 'Celliste (Ladies), Engagement (Provinces). Good musicians. If Cinema, Piano Direction preferred. Box 376, "The Era."

WANTED, by Ladies, Violiniste and Pianiste; ex. lib. Café, cinemas. WRIGHT, Station-street, Cinderford, Glos.

WANTED Known, FLORA COYNE, Solo Violiniste, at liberty for Concert Party, Revue, good cinema, &c. Address, 7, Cargate-avenue, Aldershot.

WANTED, Evening Engagement (Orchestral) by two Lady Violinists; excellent players. Box 406, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, young gent. (good appearance), Engagement to further experience; accept small salary. Write, Box 356, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Jazz-Violinist, late Casino De Danse, Finchley-rd. VIOLINIST, 74, Albany-st., Regent's Park N.W.1.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist (Gent.). Lead, Solo, or Rep. Reliable and genuine. Cinema. Solid experience. Can supply Trio. Good offers for reasonable terms. W. J. SQUIRE, 40, Constance-road, East Dulwich, S.E.22.

WANTED Known, Young Violinist, anxious to enter profession, seeks Engagement in cinema or café. Had first-class training, considerable experience, and can give good references. Apply, with full confidence, Box 397, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist and Pianist. Permanent Engagement, café preferred. Apply, 71, Cloister-rd., Cricklewood, N.W.2.

WANTED Known, Solo Violinist would like Afternoon Work, also Sundays; café, cinema, or dance; would deputise; thor. exp. FOULKES, Leader, Bedford Palace, Camden Town, N.W.

WANTED, Engt., exp. Violinist, or Baton; café, cinema, or varieties. H. G. CORNFOOT, 110, High-street, Herne Bay, Kent.

WANTED, Engt., MISS L. DOUGLAS, Cornet, fully exp.; would combine 'Cello. Permanent. 181, King's-road, Camden-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Horn, experienced in theatre, operatic and concert work. Box 367, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement as Solo Cornet; exp.; any business; excel. refs.; reliable. Box 328, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good, Reliable Cornet; thoroughly experienced, any business. WATSON, 11, Borthwick-road, West Hendon, N.W.

WANTED Known, Solo Cornet L.R.A.M., at liberty for Sunday evenings; cinema, hotel, or dances. 94, Moray road, N.4. 'Phone: Hornsey 741.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by WILL CYRUS, as Cornet. Any business. Deputising or Regular Engagements. WILL CYRUS, 12, Doris-street, Kennington-road, London, S.E.11.

WANTED Known, Clarinetist; late Principal Clarinet, Municipal Orchestra, Bournemouth; D.P., Eastbourne, &c.; invites good offers. Jan. 23 to Feb. 4. Add., STEAR CARL ROSA OPERA CO., Pier Pav., Colwyn Bay, North Wales.

WANTED Known, Clarinet, disengaged; experienced; open at once; good refs. CLARINET, 16, Powell-street, Elton, Bury.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. Clarinet; pictures or café; present engagement 2½ years; used to Tavan. CASINO, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, Exp., Reliable Clarionet; any bus.; would deputise. CLARIONET, 70, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.16.

WANTED Known, Solo Clarinet, disengaged; any business. GORDON, 54, Mixward-road, Hastings, Sussex. Please state terms.

WANTED, Engt. by thor. exp. Clarinettist, fully acquainted with Tavan, Alder, &c.; first-class Cinema preferred; high or low pitch; soloist. Terms, &c., to CLARINET, 3, Clifford-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED Known, First-class Clarinet coming at liberty through reduction of orch. Exp. all lines; high or low pitch. Cinema or good theatre preferred. CLARINET, Empire, Blyth, Northumberland.

WANTED Known, Engagement, London or Suburbs, First-class Clarinettist. Good tone and style. High and flat pitch. First-class references. Disengaged through rebuilding. (Non-Union.) Box 421, "The Era."

WANTED, by first-class Bass and Flautiste (ladies), good Permanency; experienced all lines. Address, MISS JESSIE RHODEN, 4, Saunders-street, Southport.

WANTED Known, Double Bass (lady) invites Offers; summer or permanent; experienced all lines. Box 402, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Lady Bass, disengaged for Café, Hotel, or Cinema; experienced in all lines. VIOLET BURDEE, 168, Valley-rd., Streatham, S.W.16.

WANTED, Engt., by Double Bass, also Orchestral Pianiste. Both expd. players. "E.," 31, Salterton-road, Holloway, N.7.

WANTED, Engt., by Double Bass; M.U. Any distance. Good refs. Varieties, &c. BASSO, 25, Providence-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engt., or Deputising, by Young, Experienced String Bass. "BASSO," 57, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney-road, N.E.

WANTED Known, Double Bass, experienced in all business; late Royal Artillery; vacant Feb. 6. References, &c., F. SIMPSON, Carl Rosa Co., Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED Known, Double Bass requires Engagement; pictures and variety, &c.; experienced, reliable; good refs. Box 400, "The Era."

WANTED Known, young gent. orchestral D. Bassist, wants to Play in Trio or Orchestra for pleasure. Box 398, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass. Engt., good Cinema experience. J.R., 53, Langton-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED Known, Double Bass or Cornet, open for Dances or Cinema. RIDEWOOD, 19, Lothian-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engt. by Double Bass, open for Cinema, Café, or Hotel; good offers only.
C. CARTER, c/o 90, Faulkner-st., Hoole, Chester.

WANTED, Engt., E-flat Saxophone; can double violin; experienced any business; own combination if necessary. 23, Bassein Park-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engt. by Trombone, also E flat Bass, Euph., any bus. 153, Lillie-road, Fulham.

WANTED Known, Engagement, by Trombone; thor. exp.; any business; London district only, or a good tour. Commence at once. Terms, SMITH, 5, Cobden Street, Greenbank, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombone; any bus. HIBBS, 234, Knutsford-road, Warrington.

WANTED, by Trombone, Good Engagement. At liberty Jan. 30. MORLEY, 55, Trinity-square, Margate.

WANTED Known, brilliant Trombonist, 16 years' exp. any bus.; Jazz, &c.; tour preferred; open at once. COLLINS, 24, Jefferson-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED Known, first-class Tenor Trombone open for Offers; any business; present, West-End show, finishes this week; could start on Monday next. TROMBONE, 175, Trumpington-road, Forest Gate, Essex.

BASSOON.

WANTED, Offers of Engagement, any business. Until recently Solo Bassoon in a crack staff band. Thoroughly experienced in all classes of the musical profession. Box 364, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced 'Celliste, Engagement in Hotel, Café, or Cinema. State terms and particulars, Box 409, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Lady 'Celliste desires Engagement. Thoroughly experienced, any business. Write, Box 389, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Celliste, Good Perm. Engt. Thoroughly experienced pictures or café. Highest refs. Provinces preferred. CELLISTE, 68, Mount Pleasant-lane, Upper Clapton, N.E.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement. Cinema or Café in Midlands. Experienced. Moderate salary. Box 368, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Lady 'Celliste at liberty; experienced orchestral; West country preferred. Box 377, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Cellist (lady), A.R.C.M., requires Engt., West of England or London Deputising, Hotel, Cinema, or Theatre; well exper.; refs.; also good Pianist, L.R.A.M. Box 382, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Celliste desires re-engagement in Orchestra; in or near Croydon or London. 'CELLISTE, 31, Edridge-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, first-class change; good offers only. A. GOULD, 22, Audley-rd., Richmond, S.W.

WANTED by 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced man, Permanent Engagement. 'CELLO, 8, Houghton-place, Mornington-crescent, N.W.1.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist. Any business. "'CELLO," 94, Camberwell-grove, S.E.5.

WANTED, Engt., by 'Cellist; deputy or perm.; provide band. 'CELLO, 26, Penn-road, Holloway, N.7. 'Phone: North 1988.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, First-class 'Cellist, thoroughly acquainted with Tavan, Alder, Mouton, &c., open for Engagement. Terms must be good. Address, Box 393, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Cellist or Clar. (cool) Engt., pic. or variety. MARSTON, c/o 65, Newhall-street, Willenhall, Staffs.

WANTED, Engt., 'Cellist, first-class; can open Monday next; big tone and thoroughly reliable; good offers only. Wire or write, 'CELLIST, 52, St. John's-road, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Deputising, or Engt., evenings only.
'CELLO, 11, Britannia-road, Walham Green, S.W.6.

WANTED, Engagement, by good, all-round 'Cellist; experienced pictures; terms £3. PAUL, 3, Endsleigh street, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Cinema Engagement. ASHBURNHAM INSTITUTE, Uverdale-rd., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED Known, exp. Oboeist, disengaged Feb. 4; any bus. Address, 61, Carlisle-street, Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED Known, Oboe, disengaged Feb. 4; any business. Address, 18, Colville-road, Walthamstow, London, E.17.

WANTED, by Young Lady Flautist, long Summer Engagement; very experienced; good soloist. Box 385, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist, any business. Also Violinist-Rept. "FLAUTIST," "St. Hilary," Bull-rd., Rayleigh, Essex.

WANTED, Engt., Flautist; Picc.; high pitch; evenings; any bus.; London; refs. Box 380, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo; thor. exp. all business. J. R. WYATT, 46, Gaskarth-road, Balham Hill, S.W.12.

WANTED Known, Good Flautist at lib.; deputising or perm. Experienced all round. FLAUTIST, 52, Stanger-road, S. Norwood, S.E.25.

WANTED, Engt., by First-class Flautist; thoroughly experienced. Excellent references. WEBB, Hippodrome, Margate.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, exp. any bus.; would dep.; immediate. MARTIN, 28, London-rd., Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Flautist, Deputising, experienced any business; reliable. MR. EDWARDS, c/o Mr. Jones, 92, Bedford-hill, Balham, S.W.

WANTED Known,
Disengaged Shortly,
after Popular Solo and Orchestral Stunts at Fashionable Watering-place,
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WANTED-Known, Orchestral and Solo Pipe-Organist; many years' experience; free to accept engagement; fitting pictures a speciality. For terms, apply, MUS. BAC. (1st), F.R.C.O., Box 390, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Pianist-Pipe Organist (lady); extemporise, sight read; no Sundays; London or near; highest refs. MUSICIAN, 466, Hornsey-road, N.19.

WANTED, Engt. by Orchestral Organist; experienced; pipe or reed organ; London only. C. BANSON, 42, Durley-road, Stamford Hill, N.16.

WANTED, by Organist-Pianist, experienced, full-time engagement or single days. ORGANIST, 47, Ormiston-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, by LOLA SNOW, the bibulous Pianiste, and her brilliant young Violiniste, Beryl Conrath. Engagements for March 27 to May 22, both dates inclusive. Write, L. SNOW, Greeley House, 36, Central-parade, Blackpool.

WANTED Known, lady Pianiste desires engagements; good accompanist; sight reader; dances; with other instruments preferred; London or near. B., 164, High-street, Rickmansworth.

WANTED Known, an exp. Orch. Pianiste and Accompaniste. Disengaged now, for Perm. or Deputising. Apply, Florence Tipper, 35, The Grove, Hammersmith, W. 6.

WANTED, change, good Orchestral-Pianiste; can combine 'cello; London or Suburbs. 8, Burnthwaite-rd., Fulham, S.W.6.

WANTED Known, Pianiste, experienced, at liberty, Pictures, Variety, or Drama. PIANISTE, c/o Newham, 25, Smith-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED, by Pianist, Evening Work; Cinema, Relief, or Orchestra. AMY FRANCIS, 25, Ritson-road, Dalston, E.8.

WANTED Known, Thoroughly Experienced, Orchestral Pianiste requires three or four days' deputising weekly; no Sundays. LALLA ASHBEY, 6, Heath-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, Engt., by Pianiste, Solo or Orch. Change. Apply, c/o 11, Wellington-av., Whalley Range, Manchester.

WANTED, Engt., by Relief Pianiste; West-End experience; good library; disengaged after Jan. 28. 62, High-street, Plaistow, E.13.

WANTED, Engt., deputising or permanent, good; experienced Cinema Pianiste, Relief Accompaniste. E. WYATT, 349, Essex-road, Islington, N.

WANTED Known, Pianiste, experienced in ball room, operatic, rehearsals, or class room work. 'Phone, Park 363.

WANTED, Luncheon-Tea Engt. (orchestral), by Brilliant Pianiste. Good reader. GRAY, 29, Coram-street, W.C.1.

WANTED, by Pianiste (good), Scotland preferred, Pictures, Variety, or Drama (solo or orchestral). Highest London references. Ten years' experience. PIANISTE, c/o Cleveland, 69, Farmers-road, Kennington, London.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by MRS. HANSEN, Orch. Pianist and Organist, from Jan. 29. Would deputise. 78, Bensham Manor-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, by Pianiste (orchestral or solo), Change; 15 years' experience; standard works, Tavan, Alder; excellent sight reader and touch; good references; medallist. 20, Charlotte-road, Egremont, Cheshire.

WANTED, by MISS ADA BRODIE, experienced Orchestral Pianiste; would deputise. Address, 42, Queen's-rd., Finsbury Park, N.4. (right-hand bell).

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Lady Pianist, Orchestra or Relief; 2½ years' ref. PIANIST, 18, East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.18.

WANTED, Engt. by Orch.-Pianist or Reed Organiste; experienced Cinema; N. London; from Monday next; would deputise. M. B., 2, Bedford-road, West Green, N.15.

WANTED Known, exp. Orchestral-Pianiste, now disengaged; sight reader; would deputise. PIANISTE, 24, Godolphin-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, by exp. Dance Pianist (jazz or select). Permanent or Odd Engts.; can double cornet. O., 64, Malmesbury-road, Bow.

WANTED Known, experienced and reliable Orchestral Pianist disengaged. MISS DULCIE GLADDING, 31, Holland-road, W.14.

WANTED, Engt. by Pianiste and Violiniste, thoroughly exp., together or separate; could supply Violiniste; also up-to-date library. Write, Box 410, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral-Pianiste, in Cinema; N. or N.E. district preferred. L. D., 65, Mildenhall-rd., Clapton.

WANTED, by an Experienced Relief Pianiste, an Engagement in Cinema. Willing to deputise. FLORENCE BREALY, 35, Cantlowes-road, Camden-square, N.W.1.

WANTED Known, Pianist (lady), thoroughly competent, desires Position in large orchestra in London. Letters, M. H., c/o 20, Marshalsea-road, London, S.E.1.

WANTED, Engagements, by reliable Orch. Pianiste, two or three days or evenings weekly; liberty now. PIANISTE, 358, Stanstead-road, Catford, S.E.6.

WANTED, Managers of Cinemas requiring a really good Picture Pianist, Solo or Relief, to Orchestra, please communicate to F. BOOTH, 39, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engt. with first-class London Cinema Orch.; 5 years experience. Also variety and concert work. Excellent references. Box 324, "The Era."

WANTED, Dance Engts. by first-class Pianist. Evenings; private or otherwise. PIANIST, Petworth, Pinner-road, Pinner.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Composer, Small Cinema. Single-handed preferred. Easter or before. Box 378, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Relief Pianist; can open at once; for cinema; moderate terms. CHAS. VICTOR, 9, Duckett-road, Harringay, N.4.

WANTED Known, Fully-experienced Orchestral Jazz Pianist at liberty. First-class offers to "PIANIST," 3, Cantlowes-road, N.W.1.

WANTED, Engagement by good Pianist; exp. orch., dance, &c.; good sight reader. C. F. P., 12, Stavordale-road, Highbury, N.5.

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral Pianist (gent.); used to the best music; excellent reader; free to deputise anywhere. PIANIST, 45, Durham-road, South Ealing, W.5.

WANTED, Engt. by brilliant Pianist (male); young, smart, versatile; good showman; excellent accompanist; jazz or straight; with cinema orchestra or jazz band, or first-class music hall act. Good offers only to W., 31, Aldershot-road, Kilburn, N.W.6.

WANTED, Engt. by first-class Orch.-Pianist, exp. in pictures and var. (would deputise). EDWARD BOYCE, 53, Leyes-road, Custom House, London, E.16.

WANTED Known, experienced Relief Pianist desires Change; large library; and Orchestral Organist (not pipe). G. T., 119, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Orchestral Pianist, combine 'Cello. W. OGDEN, 7, Ivy-street, St. Luke's, Southport.

WANTED, by Pianist (gent.); free to accept engagements for dances, parties, &c.; excellent accompanist. Box 411, "The Era," or 'phone, Ealing 2189.

WANTED Known, Experienced Dance Band Pianist and Drummer disengaged on odd dates, together or separate. R. WACKETT, 17, Edison-road, Crouch End, N. 8. 'Phone, Hornsey 224.

WANTED, Managers of Cinemas requiring a really good Picture Pianist, Solo or Relief, to Orchestra, please communicate to F. BOOTH, 39, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.

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BIRTHS, DEATHS, & MARRIAGES.

BIRTHS.

OSBORNE.—At 20, Castleton-gardens, Belfast, on 14th inst., the wife of R. S. Osborne (née Madge Shaw, late of Towyn Thomas's Royal Welsh Choir), of a fine son. Both doing well.

JUDGE.—On January 11, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Judge (Ina Sanger), a son, both doing well. Thanks to many friends for kind wishes.

DEATH.

WILKINSON.—On Jan. 13, at a nursing home in London, Miss Rosa Wilkinson ("Rosa Carlingford"), in her 74th year, only surviving child of the late Norman Wilkinson, of Patteson-court, Nutfield, Surrey. Interred Kensal Green Cemetery, 18th inst.

IN MEMORIAM.

PAGET.—In ever loving memory of our dear Rose, who passed away, January 24, 1921. A flower by name, whose memory will never fade from her Mother, Father, Stanley, Sister, and Brothers.

SMYTHE.—In loving memory of R. S. Smythe, Scenic Artist, who passed away Jan. 22, 1914.

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The person appointed will be required to devote the whole of his time to the duties of the post.
The salary for the first year will be £500, with such a commission on increased returns after that period, as the Council may determine.
Particulars of appointment and duties may be obtained on application to the undersigned, to whom applications, accompanied by copies of not more than three testimonials, under cover marked "Entertainments and Attractions Manager," must be delivered not later than Saturday, February 4, 1922.
Canvassing will disqualify any candidate, but 20 additional copies of the application and testimonials may be sent to the undersigned for the use of members of the Committee.
D. W. JACKSON,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Hastings,
January 10, 1922.

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The revival of Mr. St. John Ervine's play, "Mixed Marriage," by the Irish Players at the Everyman Theatre, is particularly interesting at the moment, with the Irish settlement an established fact. In Mr. Ervine's finely and economically constructed little play it will be remembered that, although primarily the problem is the question of marriage between Catholic and Protestant, the whole thing is bound up and made part of the bigger subject of peace among the Irish peoples. Mr. St. John Ervine very cleverly shows the acuteness of the problem, with an emphasis upon the bigotry of the old Ulster Protestant. Monday night's performance showed signs of under-rehearsal, but there were some excellent pieces of acting. The fine third act was magnificently handled, and here the whole cast appeared to best advantage. Mr. Fred O'Donovan made a good study of the dour, honest Ulsterman and Protestant. It was a sincere and dignified piece of acting. An exquisite and very delicate portrait of Mrs. Rainey, the wife and mother, came from Miss Sara Allgood, whose repose and grace is as noticeable as ever. Mr. Parker K. Lynch gave a finely impassioned and convincing performance as Hugh Rainey; and a clever little characterisation was given by Mr. John C. Beard, who played Michael O'Hara, the fine type of Catholic workman. Miss Muriel Allen acted well as Nora Murray; and an interesting study of Tom Rainey was given by Mr. Desmond O'Donovan.

Not the least interesting part of the evening's programme was the rendering of a number of Irish folk-songs and one or two modern poems by Miss Sara Allgood before the play begun. The songs were unaccompanied, and the effect was very beautiful. It was a real joy to hear some of Mr. W. B. Yeat's finest lyrics spoken so unaffectedly and gracefully.

"ST. AUGUSTINE."

Play, in Five Scenes, by Cayley Calvert, with incidental music by the Hon. Mrs. Wilson, and produced at Sandham Hall, Coldwaltham, on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

There were three performances of the play, including a matinée, and the proceeds were in aid of the Bishop of Chichester's Diocesan Fund and the Royal Sussex Hospital. Gregory the Great saw Saxon children offered as slaves in the Roman market place. Attracted by their fair appearance he is stung by the thought that their people, the Angles, are still sunken in idolatry, and appoints Augustine, a missionary, to carry them Christian teaching. Augustine sets forth on his mission, and is seen tramping through the forests of France with his monks singing a Gregorian chant, and later declaring the tenets of Christian belief before King Ethelbert. Meanwhile, one of the slaves, Edwy, has been sent home already converted to the Christian faith, which raises the ire of Yukel, the priest of Thor and Woden. Yukel claims the boy's life, as the will of the gods, and struggles with the lad's mother to carry him off to the sacrificial altar. Queen Bertha's moving intercession with the bold, but wavering, warrior, Ethelbert, saves the boy's life. The King is christened in St. Martin's Church, Canterbury, and the lad becomes his protégé. The working-out of the plot allows of many dramatic and stirring situations and stage pictures, in which over forty performers were sometimes on the stage at one time. In picturesque dressing, conscientious, and effective acting, and admirably devised stage tableau, the production merited the highest praise, and was enthusiastically applauded by crowded audiences. The Baroness Paulise de Bush spoke the prologue with elocutionary art of a high order, and met with a warm reception. The author at the first performance enacted Gregory, which part was played at successive representations by the Rev. A. C. Lucey. The Rev. F. W. Clarke threw great power into the delivery of his message to King Ethelbert, and his sincerity of manner was highly impressive. Queen Bertha found an ideal representative in Mrs. Holmes; and the rest of the company deserved all praise.

THE ART OF DYEING AT HOME.

There is a great deal of useful information in the booklet on Drummer-Dyeing which the makers of Drummer Dyes will send anywhere free and post free. How to mix colours, what colours will "take" other colours, and the twelve golden rules which make for sure success in Drummer-Dyeing are three of the intersting articles. Drummer-Dyeing is fascinating—the more fascinating the more you know about it. Simply send a postcard to W. Edge & Sons, Ltd., Drummer Dye Works, Bolton.

THE SUPPER HOUR EXTENSION.

A petition to be presented to the licensing magistrates of the Strand Division at their annual meeting next month, is being extensively signed by members of the theatrical and musical professions. It is urged that the concession granted enabling a meal with alcoholic refreshment to be obtained up to 12 p.m., should be made permanent, and attention is also called to the hardships the members of the two professions in particular suffered in this respect until the recent relaxation of the law.

It is expected that at next month's annual meeting of the licensing magistrates there may be strong opposition to the continuance of the supper hour extension.

Norman V. Norman Tour.

Mr. Norman V. Norman will shortly resume his tours, which have been in abeyance for some time, and hopes once again to have the popular actress Miss Beatrice Wilson, as his leading lady. Mr. Norman will rely chiefly on the plays in which he and Miss Wilson were always so successful, but he will take at least one new play. Mr. Norman has, during the past two years, read over 200 plays, and has acquired a comedy in three acts which he hopes to have produced later on in London.

"TEMPTATION."

Play in Four Acts, by Gladys Hastings Walton, produced for the first time in London, on Monday night, January 23, at the Theatre Royal, Stratford.

Colonel Sir Hilary Maitland, Bart. — Arthur Trail
Richard Maitland — Arthur Hinton
Arnold Maitland — Joe Bloor
Capt. Frank Armour — George P. White
Angus McTavish — Chas. De Roy
Tot-o'-Rum — C. E. Wain
Venning — F. Vasey
Lady Maitland — Laura Wright
Molly Maitland — Madge Hope
Lady Lucy Hellewell — Dorothy Carrickford
Luali, a Half-Caste — Peggy Courteney

In the opening scene Arnold Maitland explains to Angus McTavish, a trader on the Island of Tualpi, that he has come to these out of the way parts as the result of a quarrel with his parents regarding his love affairs with Lady Lucy Hellewell. The mail brings him news that the lady has found solace in marriage. Then appears Luali, a Princess of her tribe, and a half-caste. Out of pique Arnold marries this child of nature as the first stage in a comedy, evolved as he considered from the tragedy of his life, and sends her to his parents. Her appearance, in her native garb, before his father, Col. Sir Hilary Maitland, Richard Maitland, the elder son, a cripple, his mother and sister naturally creates an unpleasant sensation. Richard Maitland, to whose considerate care Arnold commits his wife, in manly fashion champions her cause, and Luali, in looking up to him as the wonderfully good brother, learns to adore him. In the end, however, husband and wife are happily united.

Miss Peggy Courteney, as Luali, depicted effectively a strongly emotional personality, and the part of Richard Maitland was played by Mr. Arthur Hinton in a quiet but incisive manner. Mr. Arthur Trail was a stately Col. Sir Hilary Maitland. Lady Maitland, embodied by Miss Laura Wright, provided the few amusing passages which lightened the piece, and her ladyship's daughter, in the person of Miss Madge Hope, proved a real typical English girl. Arnold Maitland was well played by Mr. Joe Bloor. Angus McTavish was carefully portrayed by Mr. Charles de Roy. Miss Dorothy Carrickford, as the "villianess" of the piece, as Lady Lucy Hellewell, scored a marked success. Mr. C. E. Wain as a queer character, a Kanaka boy, was quaint, and Mr. F. Vasey was good as the butler.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S DISPUTE.

In the Court of Chancery, on Friday, before Mr. Justice P. O. Lawrence, the motion by the Ciryl Theatrical Syndicate, lessees of the Duke of York's Theatre, to restrain the proprietors, Mr. Frank Wyatt and Mrs. Wyatt, from taking possession of the premises, was again before the Court.

Mr. Jenkins, K.C., for the syndicate, intimated that their evidence was not yet ready.

Mr. Mangham, K.C., expressed the view of Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt that they had rightly taken possession of the theatre, therefore were still in possession. A licensee of the plaintiff syndicate was successfully producing a play at the theatre, and it was apparent that nobody's interest would be served if the production were interfered with.

Mr. Jenkins replied that the production referred to the "hardy annual," "Charley's Aunt," came to an end on Saturday evening. "The Night Cap," in which Mr. Robert Loraine took the principal part, was to be produced on Monday.

Mr. Mangham said he had no desire to interfere with the play or press the motion if arrangements could be made for the issue between the parties, a question of law, to be determined before Feb. 25, when the licence came to an end.

It was agreed that there should be a speedy trial of the action, the undertakings already in force being continued.

"CROSSING THE LINE" AT WATFORD.

Mr. W. Penrhyn Forster's nautical musical extravaganza was presented at the Palace Theatre, Watford, on Monday. The play opens on the promenade deck of the s.s. "Nunsuch," outward bound for the "Land that knows no care," manned by a merry, harmonicus crew. The slight plot deals with the runaway daughter of George Norton, who is supposed to be on the ship; but the production is made popular by its excellent comedy, bright singing, and dancing. Miss Maudie Harris is a charming Victoria Norton, the runaway daughter, and dances and sings delightfully. Sid Dean as Amelia Moggs is a highly amusing dame, who causes much merriment with his musical efforts. Alf Lawrence acts and sings well as Jack Seaman, his rendering of "Nirvana" being greatly appreciated. The rôle of George Norton is well played by Roy Jackson, and Bert Stanley is very funny as Bill Smith. Ernest K. Nelson fills the rôle of Captain Sir Tom Fisher in an efficient manner. There is a capital topical number on profiteers, sung to the tune of "Cock Robin." Sid Dean's rendering of "Put and Take" was immensely popular. Scene III. takes place in Neptune's Court, where Norton is given his first experience of "Crossing the Line" in the time-honoured custom. In this scene Miss Maude Harris gives a delightful rendition of "Keep on Humming," assisted by a chorus of mermaids. She also sings a delightful number about fairies, followed by a very pretty dance. Specialities are given by the Four Delawares, Montegu (a singing violinist), Alec Underwood, and Irene Andrews. There is also a wonderful dance described as an "Apache Anglaise." A large and attractive chorus, delightfully dressed, add to the success of the production, which on Monday met with a very cordial reception.

THE GRAND, CROYDON.

"A Bill of Divorcement," presented by Dee Cee Tours, is proving an enormous success here this week. The company is an especially strong one, and some brilliant acting is given by Mr. Gordon McLeod as Hilary Fairfield, and Dorothy Manville as Sydney Fairfield admirably embodies her part. The audience on Monday signified its approval of a thrilling performance by recalling the players repeatedly.

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STUART'S RAILWAY FARE BOOK.

Carefully compiled and edited by Mr. C. Douglas, Secretary of the M.H.A.R.A., this handy little publication has again made its appearance. It is aptly called the "Artists' Travelling Guide," for it furnishes full and reliable information in regard to railway fares throughout the United Kingdom, beginning with Aberdeen, and ending with York. Advice is also given what to do in the event of the luggage of an artist (who is a member of the M.H.A.R.A.) being lost or delayed on the railways or steamers. The price of the book is 1s. 3d., post free, and copies can be obtained from Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.2.

ELEGANT VOCAL VALSES.

From Paxton's, New Oxford-street, comes a set of three vocal valses, the words by John P. Harrington, and the music by Charles Ancliff. They are slightly graceful trifles, the elegant settings being very pleasing, particularly in the last two items, the Eastern love-song and the Spanish number. "Sing Hey for Love," the first of the set, is an almost invigorating plea against the slightly melancholy song usually attributed to the lover. Its tone is finely vigorous, and the light cadences of the accompaniment are most attractive. "Zuleika," a love-song of the harem, is in a slightly minor vein, and here the setting deepens the languorous, Oriental cast of the poem. Then the tone of "Dolores" is most successfully obtained, the rhythmical sound of the castanets recurring through the accompaniment giving a real Spanish atmosphere.

DEATH OF MR. HERBERT FORDWYCH.

An attack of pneumonia proved fatal to Mr. Herbert Fordwych, professionally known as Max Cardiff, who, after only a few days' illness, died at Brighton on Thursday.

Mr. Fordwych started his stage career in seaside concert work, and came to London as one of Mr. H. G. Pelissier's original "Follies." He was a clever comedian, and in addition wrote songs for many of the members. On leaving the "Follies" he devoted himself to lyric writing, and adopted the trade name of Fordwych, of Aldwych.

He provided lyrics and patter for a number of well-known artists, and contributed to the new programme of the Co-optimists at the Palace Theatre some of its most successful items.

Mr. Fordwych was appointed adviser and writer of film prologues at the Regent, the super-cinema recently opened in Brighton.

APARTMENT CHARGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

DEAR SIR,—Re your article concerning prices charged for professional apartments, I have let to professionals for twenty-eight years, summer and winter, and always have a standard price for my rooms, as follows:—One large front sitting-room and one bedroom, one person, £1 1s.; for two persons, £1 8s.; or two bedrooms for three persons, £2; one very large front combined room, one person, 17s; two persons, £1 2s. One small combined room, one person, 13s. 6d. All these terms include good fires, hot baths, and attendance. I see no reason why other landladies could not charge these prices, if it can be done in the south, where food prices and rents are higher than anywhere else.—Yours faithfully,

C. S.

Roscombe, Hants, Jan. 18, 1922.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—I cannot allow the opportunity to pass without saying a word or two in reply to your leading article on the above subject in your last issue.

When you printed a list of charges for combined rooms, ranging from 16s. to 22s. 6d., I certainly thought that, considering the heavy rates and other expenses of to-day compared with those of 1914, the terms were not unreasonable, assuming, of course, that the said terms included light and attendance. In fact, they were even comparatively cheap for two people sharing together.

You charge me with being illogical in my previous letter. I don't see it. I know for a fact that there are plenty of apartments to be had at 25s. to 30s. for sitting-room and bedroom, including fires, attendance, and also use of piano. I do not think your information is quite correct.

With all due respect I suggest that, with a few exceptions, the charges for professional apartments in most towns are not more than double pre-war terms. Expenses are more than double, especially rates, which are exceedingly high.

I cannot agree with your remarks to the effect that if there were four or five lettable rooms in a fairly large house it would work out at £5 12s. 6d. My figures, viz., £2 10s., are nearer the mark. Most people like a sitting-room and bedroom, two or more bedrooms may be required, so generally only one "combined" can be let.

Two sets are quite enough in any ordinary house to give proper attention to, and give satisfaction, which I always endeavour to do, and with a very fair amount of success.—Yours faithfully,

LANDLADY.

RETURN OF MR. R. H. DOUGLASS.

One of our most popular comedians, Mr. R. H. Douglass, has returned to the stage after a long and very severe illness (extending over some considerable time). He is now appearing with remarkable success in "Punch and Judy," the musical fairy play at present playing several of the Gulliver halls. His performance as the Prime Minister is a delightfully quaint and richly humorous study, and he is beyond question the life and soul of the production.

Mr. Douglass is a well-known author, having written several of Mr. Harry Day's most popular revues, including "Passing Events" and "Special Mixtures." He is also a very great favourite in the variety profession, having written and played numberless pantomimes for Mr. Robert Arthur, Mr. George T. Milnshull, and Mr. Philip Rodway.

New One-act Plays.

Four new one-act plays, namely, "At 2 a.m.," by Spencer Arnold; "O'Flanagan" and "Pierre," by Ena May Howe; and "An Interrupted Lesson," by Adelina Dinelli, will be produced at the Bijou Theatre, Bedford-street, on Friday next, at 8 p.m.

PASSING OF AN OLD SAVOYARD.

A once "Queen of the Fairies," Miss Rosa Wilkinson, known professionally in the old days as Rosa Carlingford, passed quietly away in a South Kensington Nursing Home on the 13th inst., death being due to complications arising from an accident sustained on December 14 last. Miss Wilkinson, who was in her 74th year, has not been seen on the London boards since her appearance under Sir J. Forbes-Robertson's management in "Mice and Men," at the Lyric Theatre, in 1902. In 1882 she played Peronella in Farnie and Reece's adaptation of "Boccacio," the late Violet Cameron, Lionel Brough, J. G. Taylor, and Kate Munroe in the cast. In November, 1883, she followed the late Alice Barnett as "Queen of the Fairies" in Gilbert and Sullivan's "Iolanthe" at the Savoy Theatre, Leonora Braham, George Grossmith, Jessie Bond and Rutland Barrington being in the cast at the time. In 1885, after a tour with Mrs. Cecil Clay's company in the United States, she joined forces with Miss Rosina Vokes at the old Globe Theatre in Wych-street. The remains were interred in Kensal Green Cemetery on the 20th inst.

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MRS. ARIA WRITES

About Fashions On and Off the Stage, and of Many Other Matters.

VIOLA TREE always dresses well, being possessed of a sense of line and seldom omitting to recognise that the length of her own needs special consideration.

It is difficult for the least conventional to avoid mention that "The Eleventh Commandment" might include a prohibition against envy of another's frocks; having voiced this, I decide to omit the suggestion, even whilst admiring the original of that illustration which plays its decorative part on this page.

It is contrived from smoke-grey georgette with a wide sash draped to knot on the left side beneath a monster rose of an apricot-pinkish complexion. The lace tunic falls over this sash at the back, and extends to points on either side of the front, lace again forming the bell-shaped sleeves; and on Viola's first entrance she wears a transparent hat which goes to the completion with good effect.

Another attractive frock worn in the same play by Miss Dorothy Pidcock, is of the straight variety, in apricot georgette, which has the privilege of forming a girdle round the hips, worked into rosette flowers, drapery once more being evident at either side.

Once again I am occupying my spare moments in the path they should tread to economical decoration of a newly-acquired flat. I believe fashion is veering away from plain walls, which are, however, perennially justified by the possession of beautiful pictures. For my part, I would sooner have no pictures than bad pictures, and could take better pleasure in being surrounded by walls well laid in artistic design of landscape in pale soft colour. Also, should the funds permit, and the aspect of the room allow, a definitely Japanese pattern in white upon an Oriental-blue background, or of gold and green pagodas, balconies and swallows may convey pleasure, upon a foundation of scarlet lac surface.

Which reminds me, as all things should, of dress once more; and the pleasure I took in noticing a little dark-haired maiden trip it merrily beneath full skirts and gathered bodice of nasturtium-red net with a very broad wasitband of nasturtiums tied in the centre at the back with a five-inch wide ribbon of gold. I was grateful to her for not encircling her pretty brow with a bandage of flowers, a practice which grows always more popular, and I granted considerable admiration to her shoes and stockings, again of gold and innocent of any diamanté adornment.

Comes now to interrupt me a neighbour possessed of a child with aspirations towards the stage. Scarcely any family is complete without one of these! However, my immediate job, after admiring Mother in dark blue silk stockinget, enhanced by hand embroidery of her own making in conventional designs

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provides just that stimulating influence to the skin that makes it soft, smooth, and elastic, and prevents roughness and redness no matter what weather you face. There is no artificial colouring matter in the soap to act as an irritant, but only oil of sweet lavender to cover up the natural castile odour. Ask for Knight's Castile, and see the Red Band is on every tablet.

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BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.
Happy Returns to—

Frederick H.-U. Bowman—Wednesday, Jan. 25.
Mary Glynne—Wednesday, Jan. 25.
Katie Marsh—Wednesday, Jan. 25.
Marie Shields—Wednesday, Jan. 25.
Dorothy McBlain—Thursday, Jan. 26.
Albert Voyce—Thursday, Jan. 26.
George Shelton—Thursday, Jan. 26.
Harry Bedford—Thursday, Jan. 26.
Alfred Denville—Friday, Jan. 27.
Iris Tree—Friday, Jan. 27.
Frank Allen—Saturday, Jan. 28.
Julia Opp—Saturday, Jan. 28.
Irma Lorraine—Saturday, Jan. 28.
Seymour Hicks—Monday, Jan. 30.
Kate Flinn—Tuesday, Jan. 31.
Ernest Shand—Tuesday, Jan. 31.

A Dramatic Critic's New Work.

Mr. R. Crompton Rhodes, the dramatic critic of the "Birmingham Daily Post," has just issued a volume on "The Staging of Shakespeare." He discusses the conditions of Shakespeare's stage and the directions to players as given in the poet's manuscript, and touches on the methods of prompting in Elizabethan times.

DRESS WORN BY MISS VIOLA TREE IN "THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT."

of blue and green and mauve floss silk, is to recommend a play suited to meet the case and including sufficient parts to occupy the spare moments of a dozen or so deserving youngsters, none, of course, to be as artistically endowed as our heroine, as the newspaper paragraphs might put it.

I suggest at the price of two shillings, the purchase of "The Seasons" and other fairy-plays written by E. Ellis Morris, who dwells at The Gables, Forest Green, Woodchester, Glos.; while all that I should ask as a due reward, is that no one would demand me to attend the rehearsals, or witness the performance more than once.

"What do you know of the new fashions?" is a most embarassing question, since I must keep up my reputation as omniscient, and I don't really believe I know anything about these. I am indeed not quite convinced that there are any new fashions, having only noticed with satisfaction that the longer bodice-line yet obtains, but no one thinks seriously of returning to the threatened corset as it used to exist, to discomfort, not to say deformity; and that much predilection continues to be shown towards an oval *décolletage* in the day time, despite of the rumours that the high collar cut to envelope the chin, was to hold sway during the entire winter, even unto the early Spring. There is no doubt that we are as anxious to cast off the trammels of conventional costume as of conventional conduct. We must be free and easy; having realised the charm of being unconfined, we are not likely to be persuaded to tight waist or neck-band, and, indeed, we now see wisdom, and practice it, in gloves and shoes a little too big rather than a little too small, as were those affected by our predecessors in generations back.

What a deal we could have taught our great-grandmothers if they would only have listened; but they would'nt, bless them! They would have sat in their own armchairs wagging their dear old heads in proclamation of many righteous ways, and thinking with the oft-quoted Jowett,

"Even the youngest of us are sometimes wrong."

An interesting presentation was made on Saturday last, when Mr. W. H. Deacon, the popular manager of the Royal, Loughborough, was presented with a mahogany clock as a token of esteem from the staff. Mr. Deacon, in reply, was greatly delighted, and said he hoped the next twelve months would be even more successful than the last.

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FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

An Ingenious Mystery Play—Exhilarating Draught at the Duke of York's—Puzzle Drama at the St. James's.

"OLD JIG."

Play in Three Acts, by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare, Produced at the Strand Theatre, on Thursday, Jan. 15, 1922.

Sir Anthony Cranford ..... Allan Aynesworth
Geoff Cranford ..... Francis Lister
Capt. Jonathan Tallboys .. Felix Aylmer
Stuart Palmer ..... D. A. Clarke-Smith
Philip Morton ..... George Desmond
Hake ..... Paddy Dupres
Jill Meredith ..... Jessie Winter

This is a play to which you should go in company. You will find in it plenty to amuse and interest you, even if you are alone, but your pleasure in the ingeniously-worked mystery and the adroit solution will be enhanced if you have a companion with whom you can spend the first and second intervals in spotting the thief. You will have your work cut out, we can assure you. At first it looks as easy as finding the lady in the three-card trick appears to the novice; then you feel convinced that you are on a false scent; then you begin to suspect another person, and then another (on good grounds, too!), but whether you hit on the actual thief or are as completely deluded as we were, you must go to the Strand Theatre to discover for yourselves.

"Old Jig," or more ceremoniously Sir Anthony Cranford, Country Magistrate, is a delightful character. He is simple enough to love mechanical toys and puzzles of all kinds (he gets his nickname from his facility in piecing together jig-saw puzzles), and astute enough to trust to his own shrewd judgment and to keep his counsel until it is safe to divulge it. Sir Anthony is a kindly man, a generous friend to his only son Geoff, whom he has reason to suspect of heavy gambling debts, tender and broad-minded with Geoff's fiancée, Jill Meredith, a charming girl of hazy antecedents. A golfing acquaintance of Sir Anthony's (Stuart Palmer) turns up at his house, a few miles from London, a couple of days before Christmas. He recognises in Jill a former associate, and—his plans having miscarried—he demands her aid in the theft of a diamond necklace, valued at £17,000, left in Sir Anthony's care by a crochetty old sea captain named Tallboys. Jill's refusal is met by a threat that Palmer will give her away if she fails him. Late that night we get an exciting scene in complete darkness with nothing to be seen but the flashlight from a torch, a shadowy hand working the safe combination, the glitter of the necklace as it is passed out of the window to another shadowy hand outstretched to receive it. Then footsteps, a crash and a groan, the household aroused, the lights turned on, and Irish butler Hake found lying stunned on the floor.

How Jig picks up first one then another bit of information, how he burgles Palmer's flat for an important piece that is missing, how Jill tries to lie and is found out, how the thief unwittingly supplies the last piece to fit into Jig's puzzle is well and thrillingly told by the authors.

Mr. Allan Aynesworth provides an admirably polished sketch of Sir Anthony, and Miss Jessie Winter plays Jill with grace and feeling. Mr. Francis Lister is most pleasantly natural and attractive as Geoff, and Mr. Felix Aylmer capital as Captain Tallboys. Mr. Paddy Dupres makes a capital success as the Irish butler, and Mr. D. A. Clarke is very good as the gentleman crook.

Preceding "Old Jig" we had a hilarious half-hour with a one-act play by Gertrude Jennings, entitled

"Me and My Diary."

Izdy Adela Boxgrove .... Ellis Jeffreys
The Hon. Mrs. Cheneys .. Lettice Fairfax
Phyllis Arkwright .... Phyllis Stuckey
Patience Marlowe .... Beatrice Quennell
Miss Tibbits ..... Mary Sumner
Humphrey Wood .... Colin M. Johnston

This is as smart and clever a playlet as even Miss Jennings has given us, witty in dialogue and characterisation, and brilliantly acted by Miss Ellis Jeffreys as Lady Adela, a type of a foolish, charming, indiscreet woman who can never do wrong in her own opinion. She has written a diary in which she has given away the secrets and confidences of her friends. She is besieged by her victims as soon as the book is published, and emerges triumphantly from some unpleasant interviews, but gets a nasty knock when an old admirer on whom she still looks with a tender eye tells her, when she suggests that he shall solace her widowhood, that he is happily married already. In addition to Miss Ellis Jeffreys' delightful performance, there was also some excellent acting from every other member of the cast.

"THE NIGHT CAP."

Play, in Two Acts, by Guy Bolton and Max Marcin, Produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, Monday, Jan. 23.

Charles ..... Arthur Hambling
Policeman ..... J. W. Austin
Jerry Hammond ..... Spencer Trevor
Colonel James Constance ..... Harry Frankiss
Lester Knowles .... Alexander Bradley
Mrs. Lester Knowles .. Margaret Halstan
Anne Maynard ..... Anita Elson
Fred Hammond ..... Garry Marsh
Robert Andrews ..... Robert Loraine
George Rainsford .. Clarence Blakiston
Mr. Forbes ..... Wilfred E. Payne
Chief-inspector Watrous .. James Carew
Selden ..... John De Lacey

When you begin to realise that this particular "night cap" is not to be talken thoughtfully and with proper respect, but is to be tossed lightly off as an exhilarating draught, then you can settle down to an amusing evening. Without this forewarning we were puzzled for some time, with the rest of the audience, whether we were to take this tale of jealousy, murder and suicide with the solemnity befitting the subjects, or to laugh at the complications and embarrassments. When the purpose of the play—to amuse, as Mr. Robert Loraine assured us in his speech at the conclusion of the evening—was disclosed we surrendered ourselves to enjoyment.

Here, again, is a play with a secret that must not be given away. This time it is, "Who was the murderer?" The entire action takes place on one summer night in the country home of Robert Andrews, banker, near Evanston, Ill., and it starts with a party, a most successful party. The guests gone, Andrews tells the three bank directors over a "night cap" that he has used 600,000 dollars of the bank's money, with the best intentions and for a splendid purpose, but there it is. The money is missing, disclosure is imminent, and the innocent directors are involved. There is but one way out, says Robert; he must die, and his death must bring in the insurance money. Suicide, under the circumstances, is impossible. Someone must reach the "murder-point." One of the directors, Lester Knowles, has a charming wife, once engaged to Andrews, still in love with him; a compromising situation must be arranged, and Lester shall kill his wife's lover. Knowles, half believing in his wife's guilt, lays a trap and falls into it himself. He steals up the stairs to his wife's room in the dark, is outlined for a moment in the doorway—complete darkness—a shot—a woman's scream—curtain. Ten minutes' interval, spent in assuring ourselves that Mr. Robert Loraine could not possibly be killed in Act I. When the curtain rises after a few moments of suspense we find that it is Knowles who has been shot. Then the fun begins, and it is jolly good fun, too, with Andrews trying unsuccessfully to get someone to kill him, a timorous and pessimistic bank director, Jerry Hammond (admirably played by Mr. Spencer Trevor, who scores the acting success of the evening) becoming more and more involved in his efforts to detach himself from the tangle; a bibulous bank director, James Constance, succumbing to drink and painful anticipations; one person after the other suspected, and the truth sprung upon us simultaneously with the news that a burglary at the bank has cleared things up for all parties concerned. Into the play is woven a pretty little love story for Andrews and his ward, Anne Maynard, involving a hasty marriage, misunderstandings and reconciliation.

Mr. Robert Loraine as Robert Andrews has little to do beyond being sympathetic and charming and handling matters with a strong hand, which he does with consummate ease and skill. Miss Anita Elson is tender and sweet as Anne, and her emotion rings true. Miss Margaret Halstan plays Mrs. Knowles with distinction, and excellent work is done by Mr. James Carew as the Chief-Inspector, Mr. Harry Frankiss and Mr. Arthur Hambling.

Many Happy Returns.

After a severe attack of influenza, the popular comedian, Mr. Wilfred Shine, has returned to the cast of the fairy play, "Punch and Judy," playing the Boscombe Hippodrome this week. In February Mr. Shine commences his sixth year of tour in the leading characters in "The Jeffersons" and "The Partners,' under the management of Mr. Albert Douglass, who has arranged for these two delightful productions a long tour through the year at many of the most important theatres and halls.

"THE BAT."

A New Play, in Three Acts, by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood, Produced for the First Time in England at the St. James's Theatre on Monday, Jan. 23.

Lizzie ..... Drusilla Wells
Miss Cornelia Van Gorder .. Eva Moore
Billy ..... Claude Raine
Brooks ..... George Relph
Miss Dale Ogden ..... Nora Swinburne
Dr. Wells ..... A. Scott-Gatty
Anderson ..... Arthur Wontner
Richard Fleming .. C. Stafford Dickens
Reginald Beresford ..... Herbert Bolingbroke
An Unknown Man ..... Allan Jeayes

One quite expected to have one's bones well chilled by a Mary Roberts Rinehart play—by a play from the pen that created the century's very nearly best detective story. And at the St. James's on Monday the chilling was reasonably well accomplished.

In conjunction with Avery Hopwood, Miss Roberts has certainly produced in "The Bat" a live thriller; and it is, without doubt, that London will be as quick to appreciate this as famously was New York, where the play ran for many days and nights.

The first act, with its heavy obligato of thunder, with its flickering out and in again of the electric light, and with its most entrancing presence of Miss Eva Moore, as the equally enchanting old lady of the piece—the first act is not far from being a masterpiece.

We are under a promise not to tell what really happens in this—or, rather, the last—act, but the promise is hardly broken by a word or two about the entrancing old lady. She is Miss Cornelia van Gorder, who has rented a country villa from the nephew of a deceased and absconding banker, who, it appears, in said villa had a secret room built.

Then there is Dale Ogden, Miss van Gorder's beautiful niece, secretly engaged to the cashier of the bank—an innocent young man, but one suspected of an interest in the absconding business. Dale Ogden is able to enjoy her fiance's immediate presence nevertheless, for he assumes a false name and becomes the van Gorder gardener.

Then there is a dark horse of a local doctor; then a low-comedy servant girl, covered with curling-papers and chaos; then a Japanese butler; then a detective—and, you may be sure, all the newspapers full of a mysterious criminal known as "The Bat."

Suffice it now that at the end of one of the acts a perfectly normal young man is shot dead alone with and in the very front of the heroine.

Miss Eva Moore, as Miss Van Gorder, gave a brilliant performance, as restrained as it was forceful, as dignified a sit was humorous. Miss Drusilla Wells' servant-maid was one of the evening's big "hits."

Mr. Claude Raine, as the Japanese butler, gave a fine character sketch; Mr. George Relph's gardener-cashier was work well worthy of this clever young actor; and Miss Nora Swinburne made a very sweet and lovely Dale.

Mr. Arthur Wontner, the detective, had an excellent reception; and the others, all admirably suited to their respective parts, were Messrs A. Scott-Gatty (the doctor), C. Stafford Dickens, Herbert Bolingbroke, and Allan Jeayes.

REVIVAL OF "PRINCESS IDA."

Gilbert and Sullivan Season at Prince's.

Lovers of good wholesome wit, humour, and singularly appropriate music continue to pack Prince's Theatre, and Monday's revival of "Princess Ida" drew a most enthusiastic house. As throughout the present season, the staging and effects reflect experienced management, but to the splendid orhestra, under the bâton of Mr. Geoffrey Toye, the highest praise must be accorded.

Into the score of "Princess Ida" Sullivan has worked happy suggestions of Handelian style and form, founded on stately dances of long ago. The most notable feature of the individual impersonation was Miss Winifred Lawson as Princess Ida, the music of which she sang with real vocal art, speaking her lines with dignity, and looking well in the part. Miss Elsie Coram and Miss Bertha Lewis as Lady Psyche and Lady Blanche were quite successful, especially Miss Coram, who sang well, with Miss Catherine Ferguson, in the part of Melissa, acting to the delight of a responsive audience.

Mr. Derek Oldham as Hilarion maintained his popularity, his fervour and heroic bearing happily fitting the part. Messrs. Sydney Granville and Leo Darnton as Florian and Cyril did quite well, the latter singing the song more or less under the influence of wine possibly better than his previous numbers this season.

As King Gama Mr. Lytton was all to be desired, with an excellent trio of sons in Mr. Darrell Fancourt, Mr. Joe Ruff, and Mr. George Sinclair—Arac, Guron, and Scynthius respectively. Mr. Leo Sheffield played King Hildebrand regally. The three girl graduates, Sacharissa, Chloe, and Ada, were effectively played by Misses Nancy Ray, Anna Bethell, and Nell Raymond, but the chorus scarcely obtained sufficient tone and balance to merit the praise due to principals, despite charming pictures and grouping. The solo at the entrance of Princess Ida met with well-earned ovation, as did all the numbers sung by Miss Lawson, and the trio "The Maid For Me" got hold of the house with its tunefulness and comedy, as did Mr. Lytton's song, "Nothing To Grumble At."

"THE BEGGAR'S OPERA."

Many New Songs.

That very interesting and artistic production of "The Beggar's Opera" at the Lyric, Hammersmith, entered upon a fresh stage in its career on Thursday evening last, when many new numbers and an entirely new scene were introduced with great success. The new songs, culled from the original production, proved to be, one and all, delightful examples of eighteenth-century music. Practically all the principals have a new song. Thus Mrs. Peachum is provided with "If Love the Virgin's Heart Invade"; Polly found an outlet for her melancholy in "The Turtle Dove with Plaintive Crying"; whilst Peachum and Lockit have a bright duet and dance, "Thus Gamesters United in Friendship are Found." Lucy Lockit comes off best of all, for she has two new songs, both indicative of her vengeful spirit, and one, a small, but pungent air, "Thus When a Good Housewife Sees a Rat," being one of the best hits of the evening.

In the new scene places are found for a jolly chorus and country dance, "Old Sir Simon the King," and "Lillibulero," a duet for Macheath and Filch, the refrain of which is whistled by Amnes with no little effect; but, alas! the popular "In the Days of My Youth," has been discarded in the modifying process.

The evening did not start under the happiest of auspices, for it was announced that Mr. Frederick Ranalow was too ill to appear. Mr. Arthur Hosking, however, who deputised as the indefatigable Macheath, quickly put himself on good terms with his audience, and scored a personal triumph. He has a pleasant, easily-produced voice of ample volume, and no little histrionic ability. For the rest there were fortunately Mr. Scott Russell and Tristan Rawson to exploit the humours of Peachum and Lockit; Miss Kathlyn Hilliard, a sweet-voiced Polly, and Miss Elsie French most effective as Mrs. Peachum. Nor must we forget Miss Violet Marquesita, whose commanding personality and vocal resource makes her portrayal of Lucy Lockit so arresting. Mr. Frederick Davies as Filch, Mr. Arnold Pilbeam as the Beggar; Miss Beryl Freeman as Diana Trapes; and Miss Angela Baddeley as Jenny Diver, do all that is required of them very well; whilst the new dances have been most effectively arranged by Miss Mana Wilson.

At the conclusion there was great enthusiasm, with a speech from Mr. Nigel Playfair, and a special call for Mr. Frederick Austin, who has arranged the new numbers.

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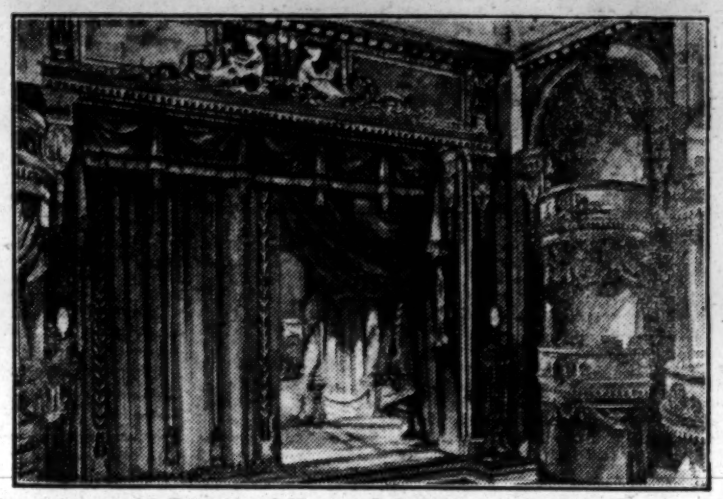

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"IN NELSON'S DAYS."

Play by Mrs. Clifford Mills; Produced at the Theatre Royal, York, on Monday, Jan. 23.

Napoleon ..... Adrian Byrne
Marshal Berthier ..... Lewis Gilbert
Marshal Soult ..... Tarver Penna
General Huelin ..... Randolph McLeod
Admiral Decres ..... Philip Vallentine
Rear-Admiral Lacrosse ..... Lionel Scott
General O'Connor ..... King Fordham
Corporal of Cuirassiers. Christopher Steele
Captain Charles Carrington, R.N. Percy Hutchison
Admiral Lord Barham ... Alfred Bishop
Commodore Tiverton, R.N. Bellenden Clarke
Lieut. Wentworth, R.N. .. Andrew Wight
Lord Desmond Fitzgratton Lawrence Anderson
The Marchioness of Queenstown Hetta Bartlett
The Lady Honora Fitzgratton Mary Hemingway
The Lady Patricia Fitzgratton Elsie Stranack
Lady Bracebridge ..... Mildred Cottell
Lieut. Anthony Bracebridge .. Ivan Alan
Routh Donogan ..... Jack Fortescue
Lavinia Lavender ..... Florence Rutter
The Man in Black ..... Ernest W. Parr
Mere Pescott ..... Florence Dalton
Julie Pescott ..... Adele Weseley
Ostler ..... Miller Wilson
Jenefers ..... F. G. Thurstans

"In Nelson's Days," a new play from the clever pen of Mrs. Clifford Mills, was produced before a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday last by Mr. Percy Hutchison, the lessee of the Theatre Royal. The play is incidental to the days of Nelson and Napoleon I., and the period that of the threatened invasion of England by the French. It is with the life and adventures of Capt. Charles Harrington that the plot deals chiefly, and excellent opportunities are afforded Mr. Hutchison to give a breezy and forcible rendition of a popular rôle. The play is divided into seven acts, and the prologue is laid at Boulogne, where Napoleon is maturing his plans for invading England, and where it is learned that he is intriguing with and bluffing the Irish Rebels. Act I. takes place in the commodore's cabin on the Royal Duke. It transpires that a wounded sailor has been rescued from a sinking French ship, who subsequently dies, and papers are found upon him which seemingly involve Lord Desmond Fitzgratton, a relative of the Commodore, and who has been exiled by Parliament as a Rebel. The Commodore will not believe that he is a traitor, and allows Capt. Carrington carte blanche in order to clear the good name of the family. Episodes and adventures follow in almost bewildering rapidity, and ultimately the story finishes happily and Lord Desmond is restored to his family. The play had a most hearty reception, and will be seen in London later. Miss Marie Hemingway was particularly charming as Lody Bonora Fitzgratton; it is a popular rôle excellently played. Miss Elsie Stranack as Lady Patricia Fitzgratton had but few opportunities for the display of her well-known abilities; she was heartily received. Mr. Alfred Bishop as Lord Barham gave a wonderful representation of the aged Admiral. An outstanding feature was the Routh Donogan of Mr. Jack Fortescue, a really forcible and clever piece of acting. All the other parts were well played.

SAVOY SHAKESPEARE MATINÉES.

"King Lear."

It is a very condensed version of the great tragedy of "King Lear" that is being presented at these Savoy matinées, but we are glad to admit that the remains of Shakespeare's great play are being treated with becoming reverence by Mr. Henry Baynton and his earnest company.

Mr. Baynton's Lear is not so excellent an achievement as his Hamlet, nor is it so good as his Shylock. The madness is there, the pitiful rings true, but the dignity of the King is missing, and Lear without his royal dignity is only half a Lear, is but the "fond, foolish old man" he styles himself. Nevertheless, Mr. Baynton had some fine moments—each fresh part that he essays shows his talent more clearly, and it is in itself a fine feat to play three great parts, and play them with much intelligence and originality within so short a time. As in "The Merchant" and "Hamlet," we find him too anxious to be dramatically effective, a fault that takes strength from his impersonations. Mr. Baynton has excellent support in Mr. Murray Kinnell, particularly good as Edgar, and in Mr. Percy Vernon, a very sound Gloster. The scenes between these two are thoroughly well done. Mr. Frederick Victor gives Kent the manly bluffness required, and Mr. Kenneth Wicksteed plays the Fool with ability. Miss Gertrude Gilbert is very well suited as Goneril—she is the daughter as well as the Tiger-cat, and Miss Henrietta Goodwin puts fire and ferocity into the part of Regan. Miss Alice de Grey is a painstaking Cordelia. It is pleasant to record that these matinées are attracting large and enthusiastic audiences to the Savoy.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Actors and Unemployment — No Slump in Shakespeare — Unrehearsed Realism—The Everyman Competition.

Actors' Unemployment Fund.

Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson has generously undertaken the promotion of an all-star concert, in aid of the Actors' Employment Fund, to take place at the Palladium on Sunday afternoon, February 5, at 3 p.m. The object of the Fund is to secure as much employment as possible for unemployed actors and actresses, and to assist them directly by means of creating work. This end, it is hoped, may be obtained by the Executive Committee promoting companies composed only of unemployed artists, and arranging for continuous performances in various parts of the country, somewhat similar to the methods employed in former stock company days. As funds are urgently needed, Sir Johnston has organised the above concert, at which many prominent artists will appear, among them being: Miss Fay Compton, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Rosa Lynd, Miss Sybil Thorndike, Miss Olive Sturgess, Miss Irene Scharrer, Sir Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. Nelson Keys, Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Harry Green, Mr. Thorpe Bates, and Mr. Albert Whelan.

We are glad to learn that Sir Johnston Forbes Robertson, whose severe attack of influenza suddenly caused the postponement of the British Empire's Shakespeare Society's matinée at the Haymarket from yesterday to Feb. 17, is going on as well as can be expected. Everyone will wish the distinguished actor-manager a speedy recovery.

No Slump in Shakespeare.

Why we hate Shakespeare, according to the "Daily Express," is because old Macbeth is said to have beaten the Cambridge Theatre record by a fiver—last Saturday night, "The Tempest" coming a near second. Mr. Ben Greet protested in a letter to the "Daily Express," and as the Ben Greet Players were acting under the management of Harold V. Neilson upon the occasion, he felt his protest was justified, at least as far as the old university and its almost exclusively male audience was concerned.

Paul Davidson's Shakespeare Theatre.

Mr. Paul Davidson, the impresario whose Yiddish Players enjoyed a successful season at the Scala Theatre, is forming a syndicate for the opening of a national Shakespeare Theatre in the West End. Mr. Davidson's idea is not simply the production of Shakespeare by a private syndicate calling itself a "national" theatre, but that his syndicate, with the influence of all the best-known patrons and lovers of dramatic art behind it, should first of all test the possibilities of Shakespeare in the West End, and then actually approach the State for a grant, and the L.C.C. and other educational bodies with a view to making the theatre a recognised educational centre for the presentation of the national drama.

Unrehearsed Realism.

The final scene in Sir Frank Benson's performance of "The Wandering Jew" at the Standard Theatre, Johannesburg, last night, writes our Cape Town correspondent under date Dec. 30, was alarmingly realistic, the imitation fire round the stake suddenly giving place to a real one. The scene depicts the burning of the Wandering Jew, and Sir Frank Benson tied to the stake, is built around with twigs, which, with red lights are given a semblance of fire; but last night, probably owing to the breaking of one of the lights, the twigs cracked into flame just as Sir Frank was delivering his lines. The curtain fell so quickly that few of the audience probably noticed the incident. Sir Frank's closing lines, of course, were lost, but as soon as the curtain was dropped the fireman in attendance put out the flames with a chemical appliance.

Everyman Competition.

The competition for amateur critics, which was inaugurated by the Everyman Theatre in connection with their presentation of "Prunella," was decided last week, the prize-winners of both the senior and junior sections being ladies. Their names are Miss Mollie Smart and Miss Nancy Marks, and in each case they win two stalls available to the end of June. There were also six consolation prizes in each class, consisting of books of the play autographed by Mr. Lawrence Housman (one of its authors), and Miss Ann Trevor and Mr. Milton Rosmer, the stars in the Everyman production.

For this week and next the Everyman Theatre is presenting St. John Ervine's "Mixed Marriage," in which the characters are taken by the Irish Players, headed by Miss Sara Allgood and Mr. Fred O'Donovan. The run of this piece will be a fortnight, after which Mr. Macdermott will have a Bernard Shaw revival.

Eccentrics' Encore.

A large and representative theatrical, musical, and variety gathering—together with many M.P.'s and plenty of other politicians, may be looked for at the Eccentrics' Club's annual New Year's ladies' dinner, which is to take place in the club's beautiful premises, Ryder-street, St. James's, next Wednesday at 7.15. Lord Burnham (the club's president) and Lady Burnham will be the guests of the evening. We are asked by hon. secretary, J. A. Harrison, to advise members to hurry up for seats for the delightful dinner.

Mr. Cyril Maude's Bereavement.

We deeply sympathise with Mr. Cyril Maude in the loss he has sustained by the death of his younger brother, Major Ralph Maude, D.S.O., late secretary of the Guards' Club, who died at Hyères on Tuesday from consumption contracted during the war. Major Maude, who was a journalist until 1914, at the outbreak of war was an interpreter with Gurkha troops for a year, and then served as Assistant Provost Marshal at Bethune, Dieppe, Rouen, Amiens, and Cologne.

The Late Mrs. Austin Melford.

The last sad rites over the late Mrs. Austin Melford were performed at Twickenham Cemetery on Friday. The chief mourners included Mr. Austin and Mr. Jack Melford (sons), Miss Jessie Winter (daughter-in-law), Mr. Cunningham Lang (son-in-law), Mr. Emmett Adams (a life-long friend of the family) and Miss Ethel Ward. Many wreaths and floral tokens rom friends and from theatrical companies all over the country, bore witness to the esteem in which the deceased lady was held.

Limerick Theatre Gutted.

The Theatre Royal, Limerick, was destroyed by fire on Monday evening There was no performance in progress at the time.

Military and Republican forces co-operated in subduing the flames, and confined the fire to the building. The damage is estimated at several thousand pounds.

The Old Vic.

"As You Like It," with music specially composed for the Old Vic. production last year by Roger Quilter, and conducted by the composer, will be given at the Old Vic. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings and Thursday matinée during the coming week. Mozart and Wagner will be represented, "The Magic Flute" being given on Saturday afternoon and "Lohengrin" in the evening.

Grand Guignol Tour.

The London Grand Guignol tour, by arrangement with Mr. Levy, starts at Palace, Westcliffe, on Feb. 6. The company is that of Mr. Arthur Gibbons and Mr. Martin Henry. The repertoire consists of "The Medium," "The Old Women," "Private Room No. 6," "E. and O. E.," "What Did Her Husband Say?" "Eight o'clock," and "The Vigil." The company includes Miss Mollie Veness in Miss Thorndyke's parts, Mr. Farmer Skein, Miss Billie Joyce, Mr. Kenedy, John Harlow, George Percy, Lucy Evelyn, Nancy Roberts, and Marjorie Young. Visits will be paid to the Shakespeare, Liverpool, Bournemouth, Folkestone, Eastbourne, Hastings, Southampton, Harrogate, T.R., Brighton, Leeds, Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Blackpool, Southport, Chatham, and Tunbridge Wells.

Russian Artist for the Oxford.

There is to be a well-known Russian star in the new Oxford show, "Mayfair and Montmartre," which Mr. C. B. Cochran is to produce there next month—Nikitina, who was the original Katinka in the Chauve-Souris company.

British National Opera Co.

The following is a list of those who will take part in the performances of the British National Opera Co.:—Soprani. Mesdames Gladys Ancrum, May Blyth, Rosina Buckman, Gertrude Johnson, Anna Lindsey, Beatrice Miranda, Agnes Nicholls, Lilian Stanford, Olive Townend, Magnon Nevada, Sara Fischer. Contralti: Mesdames Evelyn Arden, Edith Clegg, Olga Haley, Edna Thornton. Teors: Messrs. Tudor Davies, Maurice D'Oisly, Walter Hyde, Arthur Jordan, Albert Lang, Frank Mullings, Sydney Russell. Baritones: Messrs. Frederick Collier, Albert Chapman, Powell Edwards, Raymond Ellis, Herbert Heyner, Augustus Milner, Andrew Shanks. Basses: Messrs. Norman Allin, William Anderson, Robert Radford. Conductors: Messrs. Percy Pitt, Julius Harrison, and Aylmer Buesst. Première danseuse: Miss Penelope Spencer. The company opens its inaugural tour of ten or eleven weeks at Bradford, on Feb. 6, with "Aida." While there "Parsifal" and "The Meistersingers" will be performed. The company will appear in London about the end of April.

Ivor Vintor.

The "little surprise comedian," Ivor Vintor, is proving a big favourite in panto. at the Grand, Leeds, this year, and in addition to his own speciality, he appears in

[*Photo Dobson.*

IVOR VINTOR.

many comedy scenes with Barry Lupino and Dan Leno, jun. He is responsible for much laughter and proves himself a most versatile performer.

PRODUCTIONS IN PROSPECT.

NOTES AND NEWS ON FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

A Feminist Fantasy.

We have just heard of a new musical comedy on something of revue lines, written by Beard Francis and Herbert Laeland. These writers are the authors of a farcical comedy that was very popular some years ago, namely, "The Medical Students." The aforesaid Francis is also the author of the brand new "Cinderella" pantomime, which Edward Cranston is presenting this week at the Bedford, Camden Town.

The name at present on the script of the above indicated feminist fantasy is "The New World," which means, of course, that we are in for quite a nice new universe when Lovely Woman holds the sway.

Cohan Coming.

From information just received we understand that George M. Cohan, usually described as the richest author-actor-manager in America, may be expected back in London within the next few days in order to present here his famous musical piece, "The Tavern," on or about Feb. 10.

A Countenance Comedy.

Another successful American play, which, according to tidings just to hand, may presently be expected in London, is one in which the leading character is being triumphantly played by Leo Ditrichstein, the author and original actor of "The Great Lover." In this new comedy, Leo plays a hero with a very extraordinary visage. The title of this comedy is "Face Value."

"Bird of Paradise" Catchers.

While Richard Percy Burton (as he now bills himself) is busily arranging with Julian Frank, for the revival of "The Bird of Paradise" at the Garrick, that Bird's original catcher and first cager-manager-dramatist, Richard Walton Tully, notifies us that he is hoping to swoop across the broad Atlantic to catch up this Garrick revival, which is due early next week.

Pending the re-entry of Mr. Tully upon these shores he is, we learn, up to his optics in work concerning a huge new film drama, based upon the well-known play, "John Chilcote, M.P.," written by Temple Thurston, and produced by the late Sir George Alexander at the St. James's some seventeen years ago. It would seem that this film drama is to be renamed "The Masqueraders," which, it will be remembered, is the name of another St. James's drama, by one Henry Arthur Jones.

More Jones.

It is far too long since our stage was honoured with a new play from H. A. J.'s. Happily, however, we have just learned from that distinguished dramatist that he has four new plays ready for production when proper opportunity serves. Naturally, we all hope it will serve soon.

"Witching Willow."

Under this title Mr. R. E. Jeffrey is producing a new three-act play by Mr. W. M. Parker during the week commencing Jan. 30, at the Athenæum Theatre, Glasgow.

New Version of "A to Z."

To-morrow (Thursday) evening Mr. Andre Charlot presents a new version of "A to Z" at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, in which Miss Teddie Gerard makes a welcome reappearance after a protracted stay in the States, where she has been playing with the Ziegfeld Midnight Follies and making films. Miss Gerard is singing five songs, including a special "surprise" duet with Mr. Jack Buchanan, with whom she is also appearing in a Ronald Jeans sketch with Miss Gertrude Lawrence and Mr. Douglas Furber, the latter being another newcomer to the cast.

Finck for Old Drury.

With regard to "The Boccaccio," or "Decameron Nights" play, which is now in active rehearsal for presentation on the reopening of Drury Lane, all the music thereof is being composed by Herman Finck, who will then occupy the conductor's chair. This play, which was originally acquired by J. L. Sacks, and still has J. L. S.'s librettist, namely, Boyle Lawrence, is to be given a very picturesque mediæval staging by Arthur Collins.

A Tale of Hoffe-man.

Certain paragraphs announcing the starting of the deeply interesting cycle of Galsworthy plays, to be given by Leon M. Lion and J. Bernard Fagan at the Court Theatre from Feb. 7 onwards, have stated that Monkton Hoffe is about to take to the stage in order to appear in that fine drama, "Justice," and to those who know anything at all about Hoffe this statement will arouse something of a smile.—"M. H." author of the best play now running, namely, "The Faithful Heart," is a very old hand at play-acting. In fact, he started his stage career by playing in certain successes which he took on tour, and sometimes made a bit, sometimes lost a bit. He tells a tale of how, during that touring period, the now veteran, but vivacious manager, Morton (of Hull), not recognising M. H. in his stage make-up, told him afterwards what an awful performance was given by "that young blighter"—meaning M. H.

"Money Doesn't Matter."

This somewhat argumentative title has been given to Miss Gertrude Jennings's new play, which actor-manager, Donald Calthrop will produce at the Aldwych. This was originally booked for to-morrow (Thursday) evening, but has now been postponed until next Tuesday. Young Calthrop, pluckiest of our youthful managers, has a fine part in this play.

Revival of Tragedy.

It is announced that Miss Sybil Thorndike is to revive one of the old Greek tragedies which, some years ago, she played in the West End.

"The Wheel."

"The Wheel," by J. S. Fagan, will begin to revolve at the Apollo on Wednesday next, the 1st inst. The cast is as follows:—

Col. John Dangan..Mr. Robert Horton.
George Faraker .. Mr. Frank Denton.
Capt. Leslie Yeullat
Mr. Philip Marivale.
Lieut. Buckmaster Mr. Walter Menpes.
Lieut. O'Reilly
Mr. Cyril Hardingham.
Lieut. Maclaren .... Mr. C. T. Davies.
Lieut. Manners .... Mr. Felix Irwin.
Tsering Lama .... Mr. Randle Ayrton.
Ruth Dangan
Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry.
Mrs. Faraker .... Miss Edith Evans.

Act I.—Col. Dangan's Bungalow at Jagpur—in the Plains. Two years elapse.

Act II.—The Llakhang (Hall of the Gods). At a Buddhist Monastery in the Himalayas of Bhutan. A night elapses.

Act III.—The same.

With the exception of the Press, all seats will be available to the public, and will be allotted in order of application. Miss Terry has only a brief tenancy of the Apollo, so her season must of necessity be a short one.

ENTERTAINMENT TAX CAMPAIGN.

A JOINT COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

It was unanimously agreed at a meeting of representatives of the entertainment industry held on Thursday at 29, Charing Cross-road, that a joint committee should consider the basis of common action with a view to securing relief from the effect of the Entertainment Tax.

Every branch of entertainments was represented, including the Entertainments Protection Association, the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, the Society of West End Theatre Managers, the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Scottish Proprietors' and Managers' Association, the Provincial Entertainments Proprietors' and Managers' Association, the Variety Artistes' Federation, the Association of Touring Managers, the Actors' Association, the Musicians' Union, and the National Association of Theatrical Employees. Mr. Walter Payne, of the Syndicate Group of Theatres and Theatres of Variety, presided.

Facts and figures were laid before the meeting to show the serious effect of the entertainment tax and how the diminished spending power of the public had made it impossible for places of amusement to secure, after deducting tax from the prices of admission the public is able and willing to pay, adequate revenue to secure the financial stability and the future of the profession. It was felt that with the existing rates of admission large numbers of the public were unable to obtain necessary recreation and amusement.

On behalf of the actors, artists, musicians, and others employed in places of entertainment, the earnest attention of the meeting was invited to the reduction in staffs, and to the number of theatrical and kindred employees now out of work, and to the very low level of the wages of the greater number of the employees still retained. The very serious situation which must arise for those whose livelihood depends on entertainment from the contemplated closure of many places of amusement in the coming summer months was also considered. Stress was also laid on the effect of reduced expenditure in the many trades allied with the profession.

ACTION AT PLYMOUTH.

The managers of the Plymouth theatres and music halls have been invited to meet Plymouth members of the Devon and Cornwall Branch of the C.E.A., with a view to organising a campaign in the two counties against the entertainment tax, the procedure being to interview every one of the 16 or 17 M.P.s and candidates with a view to securing their support. The inception of this movement is due to Mr. J. P. Moore, a well-known cinema proprietor at Birmingham, Ilfracombe, etc., and one of the directors of the Torquay renting company, who at a meeting of the branch at Plymouth on the 17th, proposed a resolution that "in view of the serious situation created at the present time by the continued imposition of the entertainments tax, we request the General Council of the C.E.A. to use every possible endeavour to bring about its abolition, and that a deputation be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to place the whole facts before him." Mr. Moore pointed out that they were in a very different position in regard to this tax from what they were 18 months ago. Fifty per cent. of the entertainment houses in the country were in a state of bankruptcy, or would be within six months, if this tax were continued. It was a most serious thing that this tax should be taken out of the gross receipts. Perhaps it was too much to expect total abolition, but it would be an important gain if they could obtain a rebate of £50 in the case of small houses, and £100 to £500 for larger houses. To take 27½ per cent. out of the gross receipts was a great imposition. The tax was a war measure, and ought now to be abolished, but if that were not possible, it ought certainly to be drastically reduced. They ought to get the co-operation of other associations affected by this tax so as to bring the greatest measure of pressure to bear. The motion was carried, and Mr. G. Mudge, general manager for the Savoy, Biocolour's super cinema in Plymouth, moved that the managers of the theatres and music halls be invited to a conference on the subject so that action could be taken to influence M.P.s in view of the coming Budget. If they could not get the tax abolished, it would be a great gain to get it reduced, say, to a penny in the shilling. This was agreed to, and a committee was elected to arrange a programme for a systematic campaign in Devon and Cornwall, with a view to getting the support of M.P.s.

MOSS' EMPIRE FIGURES.

Mr. H. M. Montefiore, manager of the Hull Palace (Moss' Empire), in an interview, has given some striking figures illustrating the crippling effect of the entertainment tax on the theatrical industry. He remarked that no one would admit that the conditions prevailing during the war could be successfully applied to the peace era. The entertainment tax was obviously a war measure, and was loyally accepted as such. There was no ground to-day upon which it could be retained. No industry could be expected to bear up under such taxation, and not only did theatres, music halls, and cinemas suffer, but also a score of allied industries.

Prices of theatre seats were very little above pre-war figures, the increases being represented by the tax! now that the war was over people who previously patronised the higher-priced seats were going into the cheaper parts of the theatre. The appended returns from first-class provincial theatres spoke for themselves:—

Seven months ending	Profit. £	Tax. £
March 31, 1921	1,833	11,061
September 30, 1921	1,489	11,519
December 31, 1921	3,982	23,352
December 31, 1921	5,181	12,736
December 31, 1921	1,079	16,864
December 31, 1921, loss	1,879	7,103

This proved that these halls paid over £100,000 in tax, although one of them showed no profit at all, whilst the remainder showed such small profits that the return on capital was ridiculous. Should such a state of things continue here could only be the one result, that some houses must close down. On no such industry was there such a strangle-hold, the average of the entertainment tax in the provinces being 24 per cent. If the tax were taken off, the reduction in price would mean fewer empty seats in the theatres, and the amount in income tax received from the theatres by the Government would be proportionately increased.

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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Annual General Meeting.

Will members please note this meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 3 p.m., at St. Martin's Theatre, when a report of the working of the Association for the past twelve months will be laid before the members. It is earnestly hoped there will be a large attendance.

The following is the agenda for the meeting:—

Secretary to read notice convening meeting.
Chairman's opening address and announcement of Council election.
Election of scrutineers.
Secretary to read annual report and to submit financial statement.
Solicitor to read legal report.
Secretary to speak on future policy of the Association.
The following resolutions to be put to the meeting:—

(a) "That this meeting supports the Council in its action in extending the date for the closing of the ballot from Monday, Jan. 16, to Monday, Jan. 23."

(b) "That this meeting supports the Council in its endeavours to bring about a world-wide affiliation of English-speaking actors, to include the Actors' Association of England, the Actors' Federation of Australasia, the Associated Actors and Artists of Africa, and the Actors' Equity Association of America."

Vote of thanks to proprietors of theatre
Chairman to declare meeting closed.

Report, Week Ending Jan. 21.

Death levies due to date, 2.

Money recovered through office (Jan. 1 to 21, 1922)	£146	15	0
Money recovered through solicitors (Jan. 1 to 21, 1922).....	55	14	0
Other benefits paid out to members in cash	25	0	0
Death levies paid out	100	0	0

V.M.P.F. Valentine Day Collection.

The Council are appealing to members of the Association, and especially delegates, to become collectors during the month of February for the above fund. This collection is being held in honour of the late Sydney Valentine, and a prize of a star card for 1923 will be awarded the member giving the nearest guess to the total amount collected.

Pension Fund Ball.

Members are reminded that this ball is being held on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at Moody's, 71, Tottenham Court-road, in aid of the above fund. It will last from 10.30 p.m. to 4 a.m., and tickets (ladies 10s., gentlemen 20s.), are to be obtained from the secertary of the A.A.; from Mr. Felix A. Newberry, 26, Shaftesbury-avenue; and from Mr. Harry Adams at Moody's.

ALFRED LUGG, Gen. Secretary.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of meeting held Jan. 20, 1922.—Present: Mr. J. Fisher White (in the chair), Messrs. Walter Gay, Charles R. Stone, David Leslie, Robert Lord, Murri Moncrieff, A. Harding Steerman, Sydney Paxton, Herbert Pearson, Luke Forster, O. B. Clarence, C. Hargrave Mansell, A. George Fry, Alfred Lagg (secretary), Misses Lucy Sibley, Lisa Coleman, Gladys Holliott, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, and Mme. Isabel Beresford.

Reports of the "Ways and Means," Legal, Nominations, and House Committees were read and adopted.

Chairman's Letters.

From Mr. A. George Fry re the secretary's candidature for Norwood Labour Party.

Secretary's Letters.

From Miss Kathleen Magee regretting her inability to be present.

Further letters from Mr. Robert Michaelis, Messrs. Goddard and Co., Mr. Cyril Vernon, Joint Committee, Chief Sanitary Inspector (Rawtenstall), the Sanitary Inspector (Stourbridge), Miss Ivy Maurice, Mr. Arthur Page, Mr. Oswald Lingard, and Mr. Eric Albury.

THE ACTORS' CLUB.

A meeting of the General Committee was held on the Club premises, 3, Wardour-street, on Friday, Mr. H. Lawrence Harris in the chair.

Members of the Committee present were: Misses Lydia Donovan, Helen Kinnaird, Ada Roscoe, Florence Trevor, Lilian Mason, and Ormonde Wynne; Messrs. George Ayre, Tom Armitage, Paul Johnston, C. Lloyd Nicholson, and Herbert Russell.

It was agreed that Mr. George Ayr be added to the General Committee in the place of Miss Ruhama Catton, who had resigned.

Entertainments' Committee.

The entertainments report was read. It was agreed to bring the matter of financing sports teams before the board.

It was proposed that all profits accruing from entertainments be devoted to sports or other entertainments, and that a special Sports Committee be chosen from the General Committee to deal with sports. It was agreed to bring this before the Board.

The Entertainments Committee decided to purchase and exhibit whist drive prizes two weeks before the drive

Selection.

The following new members were added to the Selection Committee, making eight in all:—Miss Lydia Donovan, Miss Helen Kinnaird, Miss Ada Roscoe, and Mr. George Ayre.

The Selection Committee reported that they had received applications for membership from the undermentioned ladies and gentlemen—Miss Marie Clavering, Miss Alice O'Day, Miss Lucie Evelyn, Miss Hebe Elsmo, Miss Doriel Paget, Mr. F. Edwards Martin, Mr. Sydney F. Pease, Mr. Martin Vallmar; and that they would be considered at their next meeting.

Next Meeting is on Friday, Jan. 27, at 5 p.m

MR. ALFRED LUGG AND THE L.C.C.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Dear Sir,—I am writing on behalf of the Council of the Actors' Association to point out to members of the profession—both managers and artists—the great advantages which will result to the theatrical profession should our general secretary—Mr. Alfred Lugg—be successful in his candidature for the London County Council in March.

It will mean that the profession, through him, will have a direct voice in the licensing of all agents and all theatres, and the advantages of such direct representation cannot be over-estimated. It is hoped, therefore, by the Council that all members of the profession—and especially members of the A.A.—will help in every possible way:—

1. By subscribing to a fund for election purposes.

2. By voluntary help on clerical work, which can be done at the A.A. offices, and for which there is an enormous demand.

3. If they live in the Norwood Division—for which Division Mr. Lugg is the prospective candidate—by canvassing and giving their vote in favour of our secretary.

The Council feels that the profession generally will give whatever assistance is possible.—Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of the Council,
J. FISHER WHITE,
Chairman.

The Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, London, W.1.

Jan. 24, 1922.

Catholic Stage Guild.

On Friday afternoon a score of stage children were entertained at tea at the office of the Guild, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi. Amongst those who were present were Katie Snow and Betty Bley from "The Windmill Man," who play respectively the little cripple and the little Princess. Miss Italia Conti came to look on, and amongst those waiting on the children were Miss Louise Gilbert and Miss Molly Belvaird-Hewett. Put and Take (with nuts) for little prizes was one of the games played after tea; there was also dancing and charades. The committee hope next year to give a children's party on a larger scale, and that it will become an annual affair. Members are reminded that all subscriptions to the Guild became due on Jan. 1.

Marie Brett.

Mr. Francis Laidler is to be complimented upon having chosen such a charming exponent of "Aladdin" in Marie Brett, who is winning all hearts with her delightful performance at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, where the pantomime is playing to wonderful business. Miss Brett gives a most artistic performance, being seen at her best in the cave scene. Among many numbers are "K-K-K-Kiss Me Again" and "Coal-black Mammy."

Tom Waters in "Lilac Domino."

When the "Lilac Domino" commences another provincial tour shortly, Tom Waters will again be seen in the principal comedy part, and making his third tour in this famous musical comedy. When Frank Lalor left the London cast Tom was called in from the provinces, and scored a big success in this part at the Empire for the remainder of the run.

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THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NEWS AND NOTES.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

MR. TOWYN THOMAS.

Mr. Towyn Thomas, a pupil of the late Dr. Joseph Parry, Principal University College of Wales, was appointed conductor

of the Cardiff Male Voice Choir, one of the most successful Welsh male voice choirs in the district, in 1891. Five years later he was appointed conductor of the Cardiff Exhibition Choir, the largest choir ever formed in Wales, consisting of 6,000 voices. He had the honour of conducting before Sir A. C. Mackenzie, Sir George Riseley Macfarren, Sir Joseph Barnby, and Sir Arthur Sullivan, and also arranged the last-mentioned composer's "Lost Chord" for quintette work, which was such a huge success on the Moss' and Stoll Tours of 1897-8-9 and 10, and during the exhibition he was presented by Herr Benj. Woolf, the Queen of Holland's Capel Meister, with the gold medal of the Conservatoire of Music, Amsterdam. The tour of the Royal Welsh Singers has been carried on for over 20 years with great success. They are the only party of Welsh singers that have been filmed with their Majesties the King and Queen at Aldershot on August 25, 1917. As a composer, Mr. Thomas is well known through his works, his compositions including the following songs, duets, and choruses: "Beautiful Wales," "Annabell," "Brightest and Best," "Love Divine," "Venice Waters," "Over the Deep," "Eyes of Blue," "I Hid My Love," and others too numerous to mention. He is at present musical director with the "Bo-Peep" pantomime, one of Mr. G. B. Wayne's enterprises, now being successfully toured on the London Syndicate Halls.

Mr. Thomas has also conducted in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Cologne, Dresden, and Berlin.

KETTERING'S NEW CONDUCTOR.

Mr. Algernon J. Palmer has been elected conductor of the Kettering Operatic Society in succession to Mr. Samuel Roughton, who recently resigned.

CONCERT PARTY NOTES.

Quixotes.

The attraction at the Anglesey Palace this week is Mr. Bob Roberts' popular concert party, Quixotes. The following talented artists are all Anglesey favourites: — Jack Howard, baritone; Dancisto, acrobatic dancer; Mena Stewart, comedienne; Jack Clifford, solo pianist; Maude Selkirk, flautist and piccolo soloist; Doris Lang, soprano; and Bob Roberts, comedian.

Masks and Faces at Salisbury.

Mr. A. Austin Pilkington is presenting Messrs. Will Gare and Cecil Morley's company, Masks and Faces, on a return visit, and a good reception has been accorded them. They include Miss Adelaide Hurlard, soprano; Miss Ida Morley, soubrette; Miss Beryl Hayden, comedienne; Miss Jessie Atwell, pianiste entertainer; Mr. Roy Galloway, baritone; Mr. Maelland Moss, in a series of monologues; and Mr. Horace Manger, comedian, who also acts as manager for the company.

MOLLY DUNCAN'S PUPILS.

There is every reason to congratulate Miss Molly Duncan upon the talent and technique demonstrated by her pupils at their performance held at the Bijou Theatre on Saturday afternoon last. Even the little ladies who contented themselves with being simple members of the corps de ballet, performed their work with charm and rhythmic precision, and the ensembles were therefore as satisfactory as the solo work. It was a pleasure also to find that the demonstrations took the form of a succession of little ballets, each full of significance of its kind; and so much more interesting than a long and oft-times wearisome string of solo dances. In particular, we liked a picturesque little ballet, "The Awakening of the Dresden China," which culminated in the appearance of the smallest of coryphées—little Baby Bray, who could not have been a day more than four. Two of the best pupils, Miss Gladys Moore and Miss Kitty Mitchell, also greatly distinguished themselves in a pas de deux. There was one exception to the rule of combined effort. This was Miss Joan Barnard, who, in a Russian dance and a pas seul, to one of the more familiar of Chopin's waltzes, fully justified her title to appear unsupported.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

STRAUSS CONCERT.

The visit of Dr. Richard Strauss, and his conducting some of his greatest works, is one of those events of the musical world, though the programme at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday last was to be enjoyed rather than experienced for sake of novelty. Whatever may have been the attitude of the eminent composer in response to the cordial reception awaiting his appearance, he was ever alert with directing the superb body of players consisting of the London Symphony Orchestra.

The fine tone of strings, wood wind, brass and percussion, and the precision of attack, gave every occasion for pride on our part, and confidence to the composer-conductor, whose experience of Continental orchestras can scarcely have been more favourable.

The points well brought out in "Don Juan," and brilliantly developed in "Tod und Verklärung," culminated in an ovation at the close of the now familiar "Till Eulenspiegel," to which Strauss had repeatedly to bow acknowledgment.

Miss Ethel Frank sang some of the composer's songs very beautifully, with orchestral accompaniment, conducted by Dr. Strauss, the charming "Standchen" being given in such a manner as to secure an undeniable encore. Another group of songs no less satisfactory included "Cecilie" and "Freundliche Vision.'

N.S.L. CONCERTS.

WATFORD PALACE.

On Sunday last, when there was again a capacity house, Miss Rosalind Rowthorne, a contralto, delighted her hearers with a well-chosen selection of songs, and Mr. Tom Westmacott was equally popular for his rendering of W. Saunderson's "Devonshire Cream and Cider," and Sterndale Bennett's "Me and My Jane." Miss Violet Locke and Miss Adelaide Gretton were given a double encore for their pleasing rendering of several duets. Mr. George Buck greatly amused the audience with his humorous stories and songs. Mr. Harry Atkinson won great applause for his clever mimicry of a number of musical instruments. Miss Lettice Newman and Richmond, as usual, proved themselves up-to-date entertainers, with their cleverly rendered duets at the piano. Mr. Charles Gordon, with his delightful solos on the handbells, was immensely popular. Miss Lily Cover added to the success of the concert with her skilful accompaniments.

NOTES ON NEW MUSIC.

Cary and Co.

Messrs. Cary and Co. are publishing some exceptional numbers. "There's Another Little Girl I'm Fond Of," written, composed, and sung by T. C. Sterndale Bennett, is one of them. "Counting the Days," a vocal fox-trot, the words and music by Theo. V. Norman, is very catchy, besides showing exceptional ability in technique. Few composers are so fortunate as to get the attention of Royalty drawn to their work. Before the Prince of Wales left for his Indian tour he heard this fox-trot played by a small band, and he liked it so much that he wanted a record made of it. Jack Hilton's Queen's Orchestra made an exceptionally fine record for "His Master's Voice" Gramophone Co., and it is now their biggest selling reford over all the records of the season.

"Counting the Days" fox-trot is an enormous success, which will have a very large sale; and that enterprising firm of publishers, Messrs. Cary and Co., is heartily to be congratulated on publishing these two excellent numbers.

Mr. Arthur F. Tate, the well-known composer of "Somewhere a Voice is Calling," has written a new song, entitled 'It's an Old Home Ballad," and the words by Edward Lockton. This song, we may say without hesitation, is one of Mr. Tate's best, and should prove a success equal with that of the song which made his name famous. It is written in the popular style, and should go well on the concert platform, or when supplying a long-felt want, to the artist who sings it on the halls. Messrs. Cary and Co., the publishers, are to be congratulated on securing this excellent number, which should have a large and ready sale.

MAURICE PIENA.

We are informed by Maurice Piena that he has again largely increased the number of classical arrangements he is offering in connection with the well-known house of Salabert, and that he has nearly seventy of these numbers now in stock. This series is so well known that it is, perhaps, unnecessary to repeat it here. Our readers will recall that it contains gems from the masterpieces of the great composers, Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Wieniawski, Pergolese, Marcucci, and many others. The arrangement is for full quintet of strings, woodwind, and piano, with two first violins, and, in some cases, a violin solo also. It is highly to be commended, and the price, 10d. a set, is one calculated to bring it within the reach of all.

Maurice Piena also announces his Minerva and Luciole strings, which are already much in demand. The Minerva wire strings, with special protector, are much sought after, and the Luciole acribelle E strings, are amongst the very best on the market.

DE WOLFE'S.

It is an axiom in the entertainment world, whether it be music or the theatre that is in question, that the best always pays! Therefore when musical directors buy good stuff, even if that music costs them more than "Rags"—we speak metaphorically—then they are doing what will pay them. The cinema demands the best music by the best composers, and De Wolfe's have it. They do not keep it for long, 'tis true, as their printers are hard put to it to supply their celebrated editions of standard, classical, and modern works; and here the firm desire to apologise to their many clients for the often unavoidable delay in supplying their regular subscribers with such sought-after items as Zerco's Overtures. The celebrated Kinothek (wonderful value in loose-leaved dramatic numbers at 6s. 6d. each, book of 15 splendid items), and the ever-popular Preciosa edition of salon-orchestra music.

De Wolfe's, however, have "got a move on" their printers lately, they inform us, and a card or personal call at 157, Wardour-street, will amply repay all concerned in orchestral music and its rendering.

C.A.A. "AT HOME."

The hero of last Sunday's Concert Artists Association "At Home," at St. George's Hall, was undoubtedly Mr. Bransby Williams. Not only was he the eloquent and outspoken chairman of the evening, but, when it was found that the fog had kept a lot of the artists away, he also stepped gallantly into the breach as an entertainer and kept us all heartily on the laugh in his bewilderingly clever way for fully half-an-hour. His "Stage-door Man's" narrative revealed him as poet, mimic, animal imitator, even a ventriloquist, and finally he gave extempore impersonations of various drama and variety folk named by the audience.

His chairman's speech struck a more serious note. After one or two pleasant reminiscences of the days when he was a concert artist, Mr. Williams adverted to that all-pressing topic at the moment—the Music-Hall Slump. He upheld the point of view of the artist. Admittedly, he said, the artist had brought a lot of trouble on himself, by singing songs which were not as clean as they might be and by failing to change their material. After all, however, it must be remembered that a lot of the best-known artists had worked themselves stale at various charity concerts during the war, and in any case it was rough that the man who had worked hard and had changed his material with unfailing regularity should now be kicked out and that certain music halls should be closed.

Two other tenors, Mr. Heddle Nash and Mr. Alec Smith, also did quite well whilst the baritone branch of the family-tree was well represented by Messrs. Ernest Elliott and Arthur Court-Johnson. Miss Mavis Clare, the popular mezzo, Miss Viola Doré, a new contralto member, and Miss Alice Coombe, who sang Edward German's ever-welcome "Dream o' Day Jill," gave of their best. The elocutionary art had a couple of excellent representatives in Mr. Dick Dudly, who can always be relied upon to rivet the audience's attention, and Miss Mamie Thorpe, a capital emotional actress, who enacted a powerful little dramatic scene. There was a child-entertainer, Miss Marie Leoni, who can sing, dance and recite with the best of them; whilst Miss Brena Quinion proved herself to be an entertaining soubrette. The names of Mr. Fred Weldon, Mr. George Buck, and Mr. Selwyn Driver speak for themselves. Credit must also be given to Miss Irene Lee and Mr. Hamilton Howell, joint entertainers of the quiet refined order, and Miss Joan Kennedy, who played one of Chopin's Polonaises in polished style. Mr. John Warren's "psychic hand" is baffling in the extreme.

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CONCERT PARTIES ON TOUR.

ARCADIANS, THE.—Jan. 23, St. James's Hall, Harrowgate.
BOX O' VESTAS.—Jan. 23, Rusholme Pav., Manchester.
BRITANICS.—Jan. 23, Albert Hall, Stafford.
CIGARETTES, THE.—Jan. 23, Whitley Bay.
CURIOS, THE.—Jan. 23, Hull.
FARCE.—Jan. 23, Clarence Pier, Southsea.
IDEALS, THE.—Jan. 23, Queen's, Berwick.
ILLUMINATION.—Jan. 23, Palace, Weston-super-Mare.
JOLLY DUTCHMEN.—Jan. 23, Bingley.
LEADSWINGERS, THE.—Jan. 23, Palais de Luxe, Whitstable; 30, Stafford.
LIVE WIRES, THE.—Jan. 23, Pal., Weston-super-Mare.
NAP.—Jan. 23, Oddfellows' Hall, Stalybridge.
NEW CADETS.—Jan. 23, Pav., Jesmond.
NOVELTY.—Jan. 23, Assembly Rooms, Chester; 30, Rusholme Pav., Manchester,
OPTIMISTS, THE.—Jan. 23, Institute, Chichester.
ORANGE CLUB, THE.—Jan. 23, Co-op. Hall, Loftus.
POPPIES, THE.—Jan. 23, New, Tonbridge.
PRO RATA, THE.—Jan. 23, Haverfordwest (3); Carmarthen (3).
QUALITIES.—Jan. 23, Kemble Th., Hereford.
RAMBLERS, THE.—Jan. 23, Sheerness.
SEVEN NOBODIES, THE.—Jan. 23, Central Hall, Hoylake; 30, Central Hall, Hoylake.
SUMMITS, THE.—Jan. 23, Salisbury.
VERSATILES, THE.—Jan. 23, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

FOR NOTES on FELDMAN NUMBERS
See page 20.

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Writing from the Hippodrome, Ipswich, Doyle Crossley, of the Balladmongers, informs us that he is making an enormous success with "The Memory of a Song." Their rendering of this gains for them the heartiest of applause and splendid notices.

Miss Esta Stella, who is playing the Hippodrome, Ilford, this week, has produced a new number, "I've Got the Sweetest Mammy," and is delighting her audiences with it.

At the Empire, Islington, this week, Mr. Percy Honri is scoring with "Haunting," the new fox-trot number which he produced some weeks ago. This number goes as big as ever, and gains for Mr. Honri hearty applause.

Mr. Herbert Lee has a new number, entitled "If You're Irish," which is gaining him great favour at the Empire, Croydon, this week.

"If You're Going Back to Dixie" continues to be a big hit in the hands of Mr. G. H. Elliott, and this week, at the Empire, Stratford, is as great a success as ever.

At the Victoria Palace Mr. Talbot O'Farrell is making a big hit with "The Tears of an Irish Mother." This number is going as big as ever, and never fails to gain for Mr. O'Farrell an enthusiastic reception.

Miss Marie Lawton, playing the Empire, Wood Green, this week, scores a big success with her beautiful rendering of "The Memory of a Song," the big ballad by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls. Miss Lawton has worked this number for some time now, and it has never failed to gain her big applause.

Miss Betty Bernard, who is playing at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, is making a big hit with "The Tears of an Irish Mother" and "The Memory of a Song."

From the Palace Theatre, Huddersfield, comes news of the success achieved by Marasco and Socoloba with two Lawrence Wright numbers, "Playthings," the big ballad number, and "If You're Going Back to Dixie," which always secure them enormous applause.

Haig Bros. and Ryan continue to make a big hit with "Muldooney's Christening" and "K-K-K-Kiss Me Again." They are going bigger than ever this week at the Empire, Birmingham.

Jack and Tommie, who are playing the Empire, New Cross, this week, find "Give Me the Open Road" a big winner, whilst from Southampton comes news of the success of the Musical Burglars with "The Lisp of a Baby's Prayer."

At the Palace, Salisbury, the Simon Wery Ensemble score with "The Memory of a Song," which is beautifully rendered by Miss Dorothy Shurmur.

This number also proves a big winner for Miss Paula Destiny at the Regent Theatre, Chelmsford.

Francis & Day's.

"Pucker Up and Whistle," which is by way of becoming a co-equal from the point of view of popularity with "Mello 'Cello," the new song hit, is receiving just now adequate treatment from such well-known artists as the Sparkling Mozelles at Nottingham, the Dainty Danes at Birmingham, Renee Reel at Bristol, Dora Dare at Sheffield, and Billie Hill at Newcastle.

"Mello 'Cello," too, is daily adding to the number of its adherents. The fact of its success in the hands of such artists as Odette Myrtil, Toots Pounds, Southgate and Herrick, Eileen Lake, Jean Andrews, Vinnie Victor (of the Six Esmes), and Vivian Peake having spread. Marjorie Fulton, whose success with "Peggy O'Neil" was most pronounced at Woolwich last week, is among the vocalists presently to sing "Mello 'Cello."

Dorothy Leigh, at the Royal, Edinburgh, is continuing her success with both "Cherie" and "Come Back Home to Old Virginie" in pantomime.

Rene Napier, the soprano of Mme. Pryce-Davies' Gramocord Concert Party, has been scoring heavily for some weeks—notably at Leamington—with "Mello 'Cello."

Midge Bradfield, who is appearing in "Aladdin" at Wimbledon, has found in "Coal-Black Mammy" a number that never fails to arouse enthusiasm.

John Luxton, at the Metropolitan, is singing with his usual success both "Here Lies a Vagabond" and "The World's All Right—It's the People Living In It." The latter is by Weston and Lee.

"I Never Worry About the Morning," sung by Hope Charteris and Eve Dickson, was much to the liking of Victoria Palace audiences last week.

Violet Trevenyon is singing just now at her current engagement in town "It's All Over Now" with continued success. At Hackney Empire it is going splendidly as a duet in the pantomime, "Jack and Jill," Hester Reeve (of the Sisters Reeve) and Jack Shires being its exponents.

At Islington Empire last week, in Joe Collins's "Cinderella," "Pucker Up and Whistle," sung by a quintette of Terry's Juveniles, brought down the house at most performances.

At the Grand, Birmingham, Syd Moorhouse is singing "Down the Vale of Twilight Shadows" with much success this week.

"The New Moon and the Old," which is being sung as a duet by Betty Barclay and Geo. Glover at Putney, has just been issued in popular form by the firm. It is from the pen of J. P. Long. Other new issues include Jack Pleasants' "It's My Bath-Night To-Night" and "Nobody Loves the Ladies Like a Sailor," sung by Florence Heim in pantomime, and also by Duncan and Godfrey.

"Dancing Eyes" and "Blue Mediterranean" are the titles of new waltzes commanding much attention at the present time. They are from the respective pens of Oscar Bradley and Leslie Paul.

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FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., the Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; M. D., Mr. Joseph D. Rodgers.—The O'Mara Company here for two weeks. Company includes William Boland, Eva Turner, Doris Woodall.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. Lothian Gilbert; M. D., Mr. J. C. Shepherd.—May Moore Duprez; Martine, pianist; The Acmes, comedy acrobats; Ackerman and Wynne, vocalists; Vivian Foster, the Vicar of Mirth; and Pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. Lamont.—Miss Daisy Squelch presents "The Romany Maid."

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. Fred H. Jackson.—The Royal Gothams, in Mirth, Melody, and Music, are the premier attraction here. Manual Vega, ventriloquist. The Brazilian Trio, in a smart musical act. Edith MacLeod, prima donna. The Kobes, Japanese entertainers, and Milly and Thayer, speciality artists, completes a capital bill.

Boots, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-rd.

BARRY DOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Harry Watson. — Mr. Harry Zahl presents "Mother Goose."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; M., Mr. H. E. Gilley.—Orpheus Comedy Trio; and Pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 85b, Holton-road.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—Fred Clement's "Dick Whittington" finishes its five weeks' successful run here on Saturday.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Heading this week's strong bill are John, Harry, and Barton Lester, "Dad" and the boys in "Trying Out"; W. G. Watts, coon delineator; Cecil and Jenny Astley, musical speciality; The Buckleys, comedy jugglers; Harry Kynman, comedian; and Daisy Griff, musical comedienne.

Boots, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BILSTON.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Rothery-Ellis.—Dickie Clare's musical absurdity, "Lucky Liza," is being presented here with Trixie Kay as Eliza and Dickie Clare as Silas Slim. Terry and Norke give a graceful exhibition of dancing. Fyne and Dandy also contribute a cheerful comedy interlude.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—Constance Collier and company, including C. W. Somerset, are appearing in "The Red Lamp" this week.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hopcutt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Southworth.—Albert de Courville's revue, "Pins and Needles," is being presented. The principals are Horace Lane, Minnie Love, Ambrose Thorne, Maggie Dickinson, Sydney Culver, &c.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The variety programme is headed by Scotch Kelly, Four Famous Christies, H. Moss and Isabel Manchan, Tom Fox, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street, Church-street and Station-road.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—G. M., Mr. George L. Crow.—The revue, "Wait a Moment," as presented by Mr. Thomas Convery's company, has proved an excellent attraction.

Boots, The Chemists, 37, Waterloo-road.

BRADFORD.

PRINCE'S.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Frank Yearsley.—Mr. Francis Laidler's pantomime, "Cinderella."

PALACE.—P., The Macnaughten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Edward Charles.—Fred Maitland presents 'Egbert, the Artistice Four; Martyn and Florence; George Parr; Esme Burke; D'Lorna; De Vola and Rex.

Boots, The Chemists, 60-62, Kirkgate.

BRIGHTON.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; G. M., Mr. W. H. Boaroman; A. M., Mr. A. Cocte Suggit; Mus. D., Mr. E. Oram.—Wylie Tate production, "The Scrap Book."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. H. Lawson Lamoert; Mus. D., Mr. Sommerlad.—Miss Violet Vanbrugh in "The Knave of Diamonds."

GRAND.—P., Mrs. Kimberley; G. M., Mr. F. Liston; A. M., Mr. J. Thomas; Mus. D., Mr. T. Parsons.—"Oh, Harry!"

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner; Mus. D., Mr. F. W. Pickard.—"Within the Law."

WEST PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. A. W. Scholey; Mus. D. Mr. H. Crapps.—"The Trump Card."

Boots, The Chemists, 157-162, Western rd.; 128, North-st.; 17-19, St. James's-st.; 19-20, London-rd.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. P. Collins; M., Mr. J. Johnson.—Harry Persee presents the musical-comedy burlesque, "Cherry Ripe."

Boots, The Chemists, 28-30 Queen-st.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Exors. of H. G. Dudley-Bennett (decd.); Licensee & Business Executrix, Mrs. H. G. Dudley-Bennett; A. M., Mr. Ernest A. Rowe.—C. E. Williams and George Bliss present the pantomime "Aladdin." The cast includes Miss Marguerite Hickey as Principal Boy, and Mr. Bert Harrow as Abanazar.

Boots, The Chemists, 161, High-st.; 1, Lichfield-st.; 52, Station-st.; 29, Borough-rd.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. and G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—The pantomime of "Jack and Jill" has had a promising send-off here; there are several good speciality turns, and the orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. Albert Barlett.

TRE HIPPODROME.—L., Buxton and High Peak Entertainments, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. F. Foulston; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—In addition to the films there is a good musical variety turn.

Boots, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring Gardens.

CANTERBURY.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; R. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. I. Gilby Briggs.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "A Safety Match."

Boots The Chemists, 31, Petty Cury; 6, Market Hill; 86, Mill-road.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—R. M., Mr. H. Norcott; Mus. D., Mr. H. Tilsley.—The Four Dancing Demons, featuring Dewey Weinglass, Russian dancer; Walter O'Brien; Hanvarr-Lee Trio; Edythe Hyland, South African vocalist; "Hinsle," assisted by Gertie Rees; Haig and Escoe; Tom Payne, musical athlete.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—M., Mr. G. Park.—Harry East presents his popular production, "Novelty."

Boots, The Chemists, 24, Eastgate-street; 26, Eastgate-row.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodromes, Ltd.; (Chesterfield); M., Mr. Harold W. Cherry.—Messrs. Hart and Harris present their pantomime, "Cinderella."

Boots, The Chemists, 21, Market-place.

are presenting "Babes in the Wood."; specialities by the Lynwood Trio.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett; M., Mr. I. A. Spencer.—Mr. Joe Morrison and company are presenting the second edition of "The Dream Girl" here twice nightly.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett; M., Mr. H. Percival Young.—Mr. Fred Terry, Miss Violet Fairbrother and company are here in "The Scarlet Pimpernel."

HIPPODROME.—P., the Coventry Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. H. Parkes.—Max Erard, with his great organ, and Miss Zona Vevey head the bill, which includes: Jack Boot comedian; Larrett, balancer; Betty and Billie, in mirth, melody and dancing; Roelgin's parrots; and Wallie Pearce, a phenemenal dancer.

Boots, The Chemists, 9-10 Broadgate.

DEVONPORT.

THE HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. P. Pitt.—Jack Waller's "The Stockpot." Jack Waller leads, and an excellent combination includes Wylie Watson, Ada Smart, and Irene Shamrock.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, St. Aubyn-street.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present the musical comedy, "Irene."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. B. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. R. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Ventom Swift presents the pantomime, "Mother Goose."

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark; G. M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George E. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—The Lesslie-Wood Productions Company, in "The Catch of the Season."

PIER.—Closed.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; G. M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Mrs. Kimberley and Mr. Frank Liston present "The Babes in the Wood." Specialities by Ferguson and Mack, eccentric comedians; Little Violet Salter; Little Minnie Darling, big boot dancer and coon delineator; and Madame Walker's Troupe of Children.

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M. & Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Daily concerts by the orchestra, under the direction of Captain H. G. Amers.

Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — P. & M., Mr. Morton Powell.—The Blligold Productions, Ltd., present "The Babes in the Wood." Miss Molly Trevor, Miss Peg Cooper, Griff Hodson, and the Danby Bros. in the principal parts.

Boots, The Chemists, 137, Market-st.

GLASGOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. A. W. Hyde; R. M., Mr. J. G. Dunn.—The musical comedy play, entitled "Girl o' My Heart."

Boots, The Chemists, 72, Market-place.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—M. D., Mr. John R. Poole; G. M., Mr. Ernest C. Rogers; A. M., Mr. L. E. Poole.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark present "Romance."

Boots, The Chemists, 48 Westgate-st.; 31, Northgate-st.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. A. M. and J. J. Wright—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "Paddy the Next Best Thing."

Boots, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—Mr. Frank Laurence presents the new musical comedy, "An Irish Maid," cast includes George Franklin, Theodore Cass, Rose Murrey, May Marsh, and Ken Warry.

Boots, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-street; 61, George-street.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. J. Grantham; M., Mr. E. Grantham; Asst. M., Mr. J. Sherwood.—Messrs. Taylor's company

HITCHIN.

BLAKES' THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Will. Rolston.—Harry Mear's company in the pantomime "Babes in the Wood."

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Robt. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. L. G. Shrive.—Madge Bellmon, American musicist and champion straight-jacket expert; Nora and Barney Moore, in a vocal comedy playlet; and pictures.

HULL.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. N. M. Montefiore.—Nat D. Ayer; Vernon Watson; Billy Bennett; the Martines; Masn and Yuri; Nick Morton; Osbourne and Perryer.

Boots, The Chemists, 10-12, King Edward-street.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. J. D. Robertson.—Messrs. R. R. Taylor's pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast," is being presented here.

THE KINO.—M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—Fame Sarah Rees, the Welsh Patti, and her baritone, are appearing here.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—Percy Hutchison's Co. present the musical comedy, "A Little Dutch Girl."

Boots, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM. — L., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; G. M., Mr. Arthur Thompson; S. M., Mr. T. Staines; Mus. D., Mr. W. Sturman.—Mr. Alexander Marsh, Miss Carrie Baillie and company are here in six of Shakespeare's plays, produced under the direction of Mr. Max Jerome.

Boots, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-place.

LEEK.

GRAND.—P., L., and G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Miss Agnes Bratt.—First three nights, "Number 17," and other films; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Messrs. E. Taylor Platt and Herbert Jay's company present "Skittles."

PICTURE HOUSE.—P., L., and G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. James Pilkington; Mus. D., Miss Catherine Moore.—"High Stakes," and other pictures.

MAJESTIC KINEMA.—"Face at the Window," and other films.

Boots The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-st., and Sheep Market-street.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—P., Alhambra (Leith), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry Lees; G. M., Mr. John W. Caithness; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—For the Burns' Festival Week an appropriate all-Scotch programme is provided, the list of artists including the Four Cronies, Smith and Walker, Le Rone and Bendon, Ronald and Kinnaburgh, the Cowpers; Miller Sutcliffe, and Hugh Ogilvie.

Boots, The Chemists 15, Leith-walk

MARGATE.

HIPPODROME.—P., Margate Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M. & Licensee, Mr. Jack Binns.—Pantomime Productions present "Aladdin." Specialities by Lotto and D. Dion, "Sheba," and Mlle. Henri.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Bostock & Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Furnival.—The musical comedy, "Sybil."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock & Fitt.—Jack Cromo's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

HAYMARKET PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Haymarket P. H. Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. D. Benjamin.—Harold Montague.

THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Bond & Sons; M., Mr. G. Starkey.—George Wolkowsky and Jenni Koshona.

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE. — P., P. H. Cooper's, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Rinder.—O'Meara and Mayson, Ellis Barrieton.

PRINCE OF WALES' PICTURE THEATRE.—P., P. H. Cooper's, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Harrison.—Fred Stafford.

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Common-street, Brigg-street; 6, Goat-street; 22, Magdalen-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M. & S., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Mr. Owen Nares is here in "The Charm School," supported by a strong company, including Joyce Carey, Kenneth C. Kent, and Sydney Fairbrother.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street; and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. James F. McArthur.—Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian; the Deguchi Troupe, Japanese entertainers; R. W. Willey, clog dancer; De Busse, piano accordionist; Frederica's Terriers; O'Neill and Flynn, in Irish comedy scene; and Benedetti Brothers, Italian comedians and violiniste.

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Richard Lever; Mus. D., Mr. A. Watson.—The Four Lenas, in song and dance scena; Dorothy and Victor, vocalists and silfleurs; Alf. Sydney, in musical scena; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; R. M., Mr. T. Norman; Mus. D., Mr. Fred. French.—Harry Leaton presents "Bow-Wow," a musical comedy-revue.

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Reeve Sanger; R. M., Miss L. M. Bridges; M. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—Mr. G. Earle presents "K'Nut Shell Notions."

Boots, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-street.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—By arrangement with Julian Frank, the dramatised version of Miss Gertrude Page's novel, "The Edge o' Beyond," is being produced here this week. Arthur Barclay makes a fine Dr. Lawson, Henry Thompson scores a success as Billy, and Kathleen Saintsbury and Vida Flower as Joyce and Dinah respectively merit a good deal of approbation.

Boots, The Chemists, 42, Drake-street; 59-61, Yorkshire-street.

READING.

COUNTY.—P., Mr. Mitton Bode.—Stella Patrick-Campbell in Messrs. Daniel Mayer's Co., "The Knave of Diamonds."

PALACE.—The Holt Quartette; Fred Spencer; Miller and Phlora; The Delvaines; Mervan Sisters; Hobart and Hobbs; and Wood and O'Brien.

Boots, The Chemists, 90-91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. William Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. Gus. Heck.—The Redditch Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society present Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera "Princess Ida."

Boots, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

RUGBY.

RUGBY.—P., Rugby Hippo., Ltd; M. Courtenay Arundel.—Macdonald and Young's "Nothing But the Truth," the cast including Alan Mowbray and Adele Ferguson.

Boots, The Chemists, 26-27, High-st.

SALFORD.

PALACE.—P., The Salford Palace, Ltd. M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; R. M., Mr. Geo. Brelsford.—Harry Warburton and Herbert Wellesley present "Dick Whittington."

JAMES' HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—"Aladdin," presented by Jazon and Montgomery.

Boots, The Chemists, 277-279, Chapel-street; 404, Regent-road; 191, Eccles New-road.

SALISBURY.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. P. M. Evans; Mus. D., Mr. A. G. Candler.—First visit of "The Cinderella Man," well played by Miss Sarah Benedict and her capable company.

Boots, The Chemists, 3, High-street; 29-33, Fisherton-street.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—The pantomime, "Jack Horner," is having a successful run here.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Varieties by Les Bastiens, marvellous entertainers; E. D. Nicholls, comedian; the Musical Burglars, in music and burlesque; the Two Boyds, entertainers at the piano; Bryan O'Sullivan, in joyous jovialities; Jack Poulter, comedian; and Edward Williams, South African tenor.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Mark Lorne.—Martin Henry presents the successful musical comedy, "Kiki."

Boots, The Chemists, 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois Hill; 97, East-street.

SOUTHEND.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; R. M., Mr. E. H. Neighbour; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. H. Meek.—The great laughter show, "Sparklets," including the Scotch Jazz Band.

Boots, The Chemists, 130, High-st.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. W. Willis; Mus. D., Mme. Gunter Phillips.—Mr. R. Nightingale's gorgeous Christmas pantomime, "Aladdin."

Boots, The Chemists, 121a, Dunraven-st.

WARRINGTON.

COURT.—P., The Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, Ltd; G. M., Mr. Harry Warburton.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. in Gilbert and Sullivan operas.

Boots, The Chemists, 126, Bridge-street, corner of Sankey-street and Bridge-street.

WEDNESBURY.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Dry.—A capital pantomime. "Jack and Jill," is being presented here by Harry Firth's company. Hazel Glen makes a captivating Prince, and Flora Fulthorpe a pleasing Heartsease. Billy Russell is amusing as Ginger. Gene Fields is a comical Widdow Wiggins.

Boots, The Chemists, 14, Market-place.

WESTCLIFF.

NEW PALACE.—P. & M., Miss Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Miss Florence Dean; Mus. D., Mr. Adam Seebold.—The Actual Birmingham Repertory Company presents "The Romantic Young Lady," "Getting Married" and "The Importance of Being Earnest."

Boots, The Chemists, 105, Hamlet Court-rd.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Carlton Fredricks; M., Mrs. C. Fredricks.—The London Syndicate are presenting their musical comedy company in "The Live Wires."

Boots, The Chemists, 38, High-st.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Tours, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Tom Bell.—Macdonald and Young are presenting the popular musical comedy, "Betty," with Miss Dorothy Hersee in the title-role.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Tom Bell; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Austin.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young's Co. in "Betty."

Boots, The Chemists, 73, High-street.

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THE ERA

Wires: "The Era," London. ESTABLISHED 1837. 'Phones: 4546 and 4547 Regent.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 1922.

THE MUSIC HALL SCARE.

HEADLINES are again being freely distributed over the daily and evening papers regarding the affairs of the entertainment industry, and we are assured that variety is at its last gasp. The drama was long since buried by the same people, but has managed to survive. That there is a slump in variety business no one is prepared to deny, but it is not so sensational as some people seem to imagine. Some time ago we drew attention to the fact that while the suburban theatres had gone over in bulk to the "pictures," it was not the drama proper that suffered, but vaudeville. At the time we commented on the situation, we pointed out that halls had opera, comedy, revue, melodrama, and even Shakespeare filling its bills, showing clearly which class of entertainment it was that was giving way. The going over of the Palladium, hitherto regarded as the stronghold of variety in London, to the "legitimate" emphasises in an exceptional degree the depression in the vaudeville industry.

The Slump in Variety.

Many reasons are given for the step thus rendered necessary. We can hardly think that the smaller houses which have been attracted of late can be any more than a contributory cause. The reason lies more probably in the fact that the expenditure side of the enterprise has been too high to secure a balance on the right side, and that a succession of set pieces, with a few of the stars appearing in them, will serve to restore the balance.

We prefer to take the view of MR. R. H. GILLESPIE, and to attribute the failing of the halls chiefly to the crippling effects of the amusement tax. With him we think that the real trouble is that present-day costs are so enormou increased over pre-war rates that the business becomes unworkable. A thousand pounds a week in entertainment tax is a formidable sum for one house to face, and if that sum in proportion went to swell the revenue of the hall, as it should do, the problem of making the enterprise pay would be practically solved. Fortunately, the representatives of the entertainment world have at length agreed upon concerted action in the matter, and as the result of the meeting last week between theatrical, variety, musical, and cinema interests, both employer and employed, a committee has been appointed to consider the best method of securing the repeal of the tax. For many months past we have been practically alone in advocating a reform which has been regarded as a forlorn hope, and it is gratifying to learn that our efforts have at length borne fruit.

We have pointed out several methods of effecting the end desired. One, perhaps a little too drastic, has been the closing down for a week of all places of amusement—in other words, a strike of theatres, music halls, and picture palaces. That, however, would entail a vast amount of sacrifice on the part of those concerned in the industry. Rates, rent, and other charges would have to go on, artistes would have to forego their salaries, musicians their fees, and stage staff their wages; and though we believe the experiment would be effectual—for the country without its entertainments is unthinkable—the loss and hardship incurred makes such a course prohibitive.

Fighting the Tax.

A far better way would be to tackle the question at the polls. In spite of the PRIME MINISTER'S declaration that he has not made up his mind about a General Election, that interesting event cannot be far off, and the opportunity should be seized to exact from each candidate a declaration as to whether or no he would support the abolition of the tax. Against those who refused all the resources of stage and screen could be employed without regard to party or politics.

Variety is by no means dead, nor even gone before. It is alive, and needs only a little adjustment to make it as vigorous as ever. We do not doubt that My Lady Vaudeville will raise her head majestically as ever, if not in Argyll-street, then in some other part of the West End.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Charles Méré's New Production—The Odeon Director in the Cigale Revue—Still Feting Moliere—New Society Piece.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—The new four-act piece, "La Flamme," by Charles Méré, presented on Thursday at the Ambigu-Comique, is high-class melodrama, and sure of a long run. The action is rapid, often thrilling, and always dramatic, notwithstanding a few exaggerations. In the first act Lord Sadley receives the visit of a French lady. She is Cleo, a music-hall artist, who was Sadley's mistress in Paris eighteen years earlier. A child was born, taken in charge by the father when the mother proved unworthy, and she has now called to claim it. Lord Sadley explains he has had the boy educated, and obtained authority from the Crown for their son, Hugues, to bear his name as his lawful heir. The illegitimate offspring will later come into the title. The stern father refuses to allow Cleo to see Hugues, and she returns to Paris to resume her dreary existence. We find her two years later frequenting a night café in the company of Boussat, not a bad kind of fellow, but exceedingly jealous and of doubtful honesty. Hugues, now Lord Sadley, his father having died, succeeds in tracing his mother in compliance with his father's last wishes. He prevails on her to quit the man she loves and turn over a new leaf, but only following a violent third act, when the three opposing characters are brought together, and the abandoned lover, after getting shot in the hand by Cleo, reveals to the young nobleman the true status of his mother. Influenced by a powerful filial affection, Hugues accompanies his newly-found mother to Switzerland to hide the past. He is in love with a girl of good family, but is given to understand his mother is an obstacle to the marriage. Cleo realises this, and at the same time hearing through a friend that Boussat is going from bad to worse because of her absence, she decides to return to her former life. Accordingly, she sadly writes to her son, explaining the necessary sacrifice, while he is away courting the girl he wishes to make Lady Sadley. Mme. Polaire admirably depicts the disreputable mother, possessed with the maternal flame (hence the title) that prompts the final sacrifice, and Charles Bernard is the melancholy, but fearless, young lord of a rare type.

"Batignolles-Cigale-Odeon."

M. R. Flatéau has mounted a big show at the Cigale, with a big head-liner, in the name of Firmin Gemier, who appears in the clever revue with the above title, by Clement Vautel and Max Eddy. The fact that Gemier is to be director of the Odeon in March, and that he impersonates Briand at the Washington Conference, is a sufficient publicity stunt to attract attention to the show. Yet, apart from that, it is an excellent show, crowded with amusing scenes. Besides a patriotic address in slang, which the authors have adroitly written for his rôle of M. Briand, M. Gemier gives a diverting skit on Moro-Gafferi, the defender of Landru, and also a house painter mistaken for a famous cubist artist. The transformations are splendid. Some admirers may object to this versatile actor-manager appearing in a light revue at the Cigale, and they may be right, but he sets the example that a performer should carry out his contract when physically fit, no matter what unforeseen circumstances may arise. Berthe Plantade is applauded as Louise, selling vegetables at the close of her career, and there is much other clever material in this Cigale revue, punningly named after an omnibus itinerary.

Molière's Tri-centenary.

The celebrations have continued during the week, and there are few theatres that have not had some sort of attraction in this line. Following the Sunday fête at the Comedie Française, the authorities organised a special matinée at the Opera on Tuesday, when the third act of "Tartufe" was played by prominent stars, after which a large delegation of French actors and actresses walked in procession in the "ceremonie" scene of the "Malade Imaginaire." At the line where Argan declaims the second "juro" the performance was stopped, and the audience asked to stand a minute in silence as homage to the immortal memory of the author. It was at this point in the comedy that Molière was taken ill on the occasion of his last public performance.

Theatrical folks made a pilgrimage on Wednesday to the tomb of Molière in the Pere Lachaise cemetery, Paris, led by Emile Fabre, administrator of the Comedie Française. Short speeches were delivered and wreaths deposited on the grave.

"Les Fourberies de Scapin" was revived at the Comedie Française on Thursday, better handled than usual, while the ever-green "Bourgeois Gentilhomme" formed the bill for a gala the previous evening. We have also had "La Comtesse d'Escarbagnas," which Molière is credited with having considered as a play of no importance. It was hastily written by order of the King as an introduction to a series of ballets, and Molière apparently did not relish the commission. Created in December, 1671, before the Court at St. Germain, it was first performed in Paris at the Palais Royal, July, 1672, on a bill with "Mariage Forcé," being classed as a success but with a career of hardly 600 performances in two and a-half centuries.

"Un Chien dans un jeu de Quilles."

Such is the title of the four-act comedy by A. de Fouquieres and Raymond Silva, produced Friday at the Theatre Femina. The dog in the "game of skittles" (the translation of the title) is Patouille, who sets out to save his friend's honour. We are not certain Simone respects her husband Jacques or cares for Patouille, but the latter loves his friend's wife and acts the rôle of a modern Cyrano towards Christian. He consequently withdraws when Simone hints she is willing, only to return later with undefined intentions. This play was nicely conceived but cannot be listed as a successful work, though well represented by Harry Baur, Alerme, Vierge, and Mme. Madeleine Carlier as the beautiful Simone.

"Skating Ring."

M. Canudo, author of the book, probably means "rink," for the cubist scene represents such a resort. This new ballet, mounted at the Theatre des Champs Elysées by Jean Borlin on Saturday night with the Swedish ballet company, interested an elegant crowd. The score is by M. Honnegger, and his music enables the dancers to convey an impression of skating, while the costumes and set by Fernand Leger lend an ultra-modern atmosphere. "Les Vierges Folles" remains on the bill of the Ballets Suedois troupe.

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"Drifting"—"Lawful Larceny."

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—"Drifting," the new attraction at the Playhouse, is a highly interesting and exciting melodrama in six "incidents." William A. Brady, who has been somewhat unfortunate of late in his choice of plays, has at length struck a "winner," and his talented daughter, Alice Brady, has won new honours as the adventurous heroine of this genuine "thriller," which is full of action from start to finish. It was written by John Colton and D. H. Andrews, who take the audience from America to China and back again, and people their play with no fewer than 40 characters. In the opening scene Miss Brady is seen as a village flapper who resents her father's interference in a love affair and leaves home. Five years later she has blossomed out as the notorious "Cassie Cook of the Yellow Sea," and we find her at Mrs. Polly Voo France's American cabaret in Shanghai. Here begin the adventures of two derelicts who drift together in the nondescript society of the underworld of Shanghai. At the outset their paths lie apart. Bad Lands McKinney, as the man is known, accepts a commission from the wife of an English secret service officer to expose a plot brewing between the Bolsheviks and a revolutionary party in China, which will result in a general massacre of the white people. His mission takes him to the hills of Turgkow, on the Tartar border, and there, at an Oriental inn, he meets Cassie Cook, whom the habitués of the cabarets in Shanghai know as the "Queen of Sheba." As they meet, the tribal drums beat ominously in the hills, and the Tartars are rising. McKinney's mission is to discover what are the crafty Li Shen Kueng's dealings with a Russian agent. He has all but succeeded when Cassie Cook's peril prompts him to come to her aid. She has been visiting the missionaries in whose company she travelled from America, and these good people are among the first to be slain. Cassie and her new friend make their way through the wilderness and reach the port of Tsin Sein, where they encounter Li Shen Kueng. They follow him aboard the tramp steamer on which he is returning to Shanghai, and not only spoil his plot to murder them, but obtain possession of a much-desired document. The perils they have shared accomplish the regeneration of Cassie Cook and Bad Lands McKinney. They declare their love for each other, and the dawn of a new life for the adventurous pair is indicated as the play ends. Robert Warwick as McKinney plays his part splendidly. Lumsden Hare is effective as the crafty Li Shen Kueng, and Selene Johnson is very good as Lady Beamish.

"Lawful Larceny."

This play, by Samuel Shipman, now running at the Republic Theatre, is a blend of comedy and melodrama with a happy ending to send the audience home satisfied. Vivian Hepburn, an adventuress, is contrasted with Marion Dorsey, the loving wife of the infatuated Andrew Dorsey, who becomes her rival's secretary to secure her revenge and regain her husband's fortune. Marion wins Guy Tarlow away from Vivian gets Tarlow to help her rob Vivian's safe, and then decamps, leaving Tarlow in the lurch. In the last act occurs the final struggle between the two women, with Marion triumphant through proving that Vivian is a card-sharper. Then Marion puts her once more devoted Andrew on probation. Margaret Lawrence as Marion Gail Kane as Vivian, and Lowell Sherman as Tarlow play their parts well.

WHAT COMEDIANS WANT.

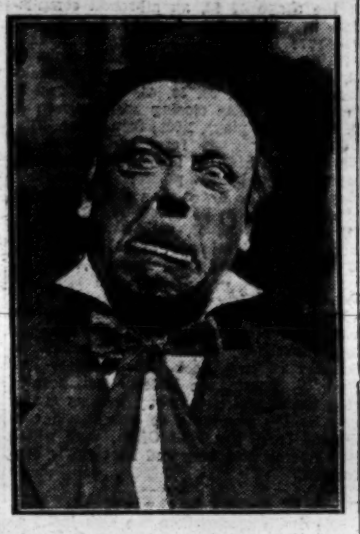
A DEARTH OF WRITERS OF TOPICAL VERSE.

By W. H. BERRY.

What comedians, whether in revue or on the variety stage, require to-day are well-written and well-adapted lyrics. They are short of the proper material with which to do their work, for good lyrics are quite as important to a comedian as good tunes.

I can quite understand why musical turns are unable to present fresh songs to the public. It is because good lyrics are scarce; they are very difficult to get. You can secure an author to write a good part for a comedian; you can get a good comedian who is capable of making an excellent part, but it is increasingly difficult to find men who can write good lyrics.

Why this should be so I do not understand; I cannot ascertain the real reason. As is well known to those who have seen



MR. W. H. BERRY
as Dipper Tigg in "The Golden Moth."

me either at the Adelphi or previously at Daly's, I have invariably had fine topical numbers to sing; but I have heard complaints of others who find it utterly impossible nowadays to obtain a topical song worth singing—and if they do get a topical song it was out of date within a week or so, because the lyric writer has not written the right kind of verse. So these songs have, in many cases, had to be cut out because the words have been out of date.

In my present show, "The Golden Moth," at the Adelphi, I am disguised in the third act, in one of my crook escapades, as a Duchess. We have been wanting to introduce a woman's song in the part, but up to the present we have not been able to find one that is anything like suitable or "classy" enough to be used in a production of this kind. What is the reason? Surely there must be one. There is therefore a fine chance here for a writer of decent lyrics. I mention this just to prove my contention that there is a short age of really good lyrics for comedians. They are more difficult to get than good parts.

Of course, I, personally, have been very fortunate in my parts, both at the Adelphi where I have just completed my 2,000th performance, and at Daly's, at which theatre I played for ten years. But no everyone, perhaps, has had the same amount of good luck in his lyrics as I have.

Building Up a Situation.

The fact that many music-hall managers are turning their programmes from variety into revue goes to prove that the supply of valuable material to artists is getting shorter and shorter. The position is extraordinary. And the number of good comedians, by the by, seems to be getting fewer and fewer. When I first started in the business there were many very good comedians, so many, indeed, that I thought I should never get a chance to look in, so to speak, but that number seems to have been reduced to a mere handful at the present moment.

It is more and more difficult for comedians to get suitable songs with which to amuse the public, and still keep to their own line of business; and it is also difficult to find suitable parts. I attribute a great deal of my own success to the fact that I *do* play the part—I do not merely dress for it, I play it, too, to the best of my ability. I always contrive to be apparently successful in my parts by keeping a good temper, and by trying to make fun—clean fun—very often out of nothing. A comedian must have the gift of the art of gagging—he must be able spontaneously to appreciate the subtle situations that arise, and have the capacity to build up a promising line or situation in a play so that it becomes quite a feature in the performance of whatever act it is in.

What Audiences Expect.

We are living in an age when audiences expect a great deal from comedians—expect more from them, despite the fact that the supply of good material gets less and less. And yet it is easier for a music-hall comedian to secure lyrics than it is for a revue artist, for the simple reason that he can sing songs composed by, say, Bill Jones and Jack Smith, both on the same night, and it doesn't affect his show. It is vastly different in a case like mine, for instance, it is not so easy to obtain lyrics that can be sung in shows like those with which I am always associated at the Adelphi. I had a certain number in a certain play I was in. It had four or five verses, which were topical at the time they were written, but when I had sung them for four or five weeks they got stale, and I had to cut out the verses one by one as they got too old to sing. Lyric writers seem to give what we call an introductive verse, and the two or three verses on topics of the moment, and then they finish. Their work is never lasting, and under present circumstances can never be lasting. It so soon goes out of date.

The present then seems to be a great opportunity for men who can write good lyrics for comedians. The existing condition of things is regrettable.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Hardly Co-optimists

Co-alitionists, in the theatre of politics.

* * *

What a queue we shall soon find at Westminster, struggling for seats!

* * *

Why shouldn't Acts by the House of Commons be vetoed? Whole plays by other people sometimes are!

* * *

A Theatrical Storm.

Raised by Marie Tempest.

* * *

Miss Tempest says we need a new diet. She can diet the Criterion—laughing.

* * *

Meanwhile, a music hall critic argues that stars don't vary their performances enough. Variety needs variety.

* * *

A Common Occurrence.

What's all this talk of "the passing of the Palladium"? I've passed it many a time—but it's always difficult not to go in.

* * *

Mr. Gulliver's suggestion that music hall stars do not draw as they used to do has made some of the said stars feel Gul-liverish.

* * *

"Go forth and succeed," said the proud parent. "If I am going to succeed," replied the budding actor, "I shall have to go first."

* * *

Please Note!

It is now an offence to swear on Broadstairs jetty. No broad language at Broadstairs.

* * *

Apropos of which, to the actor who boasts that he has had many successes with booths, we may reply that actresses have had many successes with "piers."

* * *

Our S.O.S. to the weather clerk: "Save Our Sunshine."

* * *

Nearer Home.

A blue bird has been discovered by the Mount Everest Expedition. We've got one here, too—at the King's, Hammersmith.

* * *

Mr. Hillaire Belloc wants to see history taught at the cinema. Undoubtedly an appropriate way of seeing how times move.

* * *

Congratulations to those cinema proprietors who are now reducing their charges. The price of tip-up seats is tipping down.

TOUCHSTONE.

"THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT."

WE HEAR—

That "Jimmie" Stewart is complaining about the reports of his sudden death being grossly exaggerated.

* * *

That Cora Lingard will soon be seen in the West End again.

* * *

That the Adelphi's "mystery" diamond belonged to a ring, from which it slipped during the owner's moments of "showing approval in the usual manner."

* * *

That the "mixers" of Portsmouth are very busy with "hula, hula" cocktails.

* * *

That Edward Cooper is now playing St. George in "Where the Rainbow Ends."

* * *

That A. Emmett Adams has a musical comedy in preparation.

* * *

That nowadays, in spare time, he is a dramatic critic.

* * *

That he will not, however, "cover" his own show.

* * *

That the Play Actors' next production will include a speciality dance novelty.

* * *

That, in a forthcoming revue, the promoter man wants but little furbelow.

* * *

That more is going to be heard of Miss Warwick, the Mayfair street singer whom Schapiro, the Russian composer, "discovered" last year.

* * *

That W. H. Berry's golf handicap is 14.

* * *

That "Golden Moth" girls ward off flu by dipping their cigarettes in eucalyptus oil.

* * *

That the Scala will be "all dressed up" by March.

* * *

That the nursing institutes are the places to ring up when you want to know which box-offices are "slumping."

* * *

That the Palladium matinée took place as usual on Monday. And that's that.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

M.H.A.R.A. Special Meeting—'Flu Victims—Vaudeville Club Snooker—Pantomime Artists and Glasgow Charities.

M.H.A.R.A. Special Meeting.

The attention of members of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association is drawn to an advertisement convening a special general meeting to be held next Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the Board Room, 18, Charing Cross-road, to consider the advisability of increasing the annual subscription.

The 1227th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Wednesday, Jan. 18, when the following members were present:—Messrs. Harry Marlow (chairman of the committee) who presided, Harry Claff, Reg. Ewen, Alf. Herald, Chas. Kasrac, W. H. Atlas, J. W. Cragg (hon trustee), Monte Bayley (hon treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Illness of J. W. Tate.

Writing on Monday night, our Hanley correspondent says Mr. James W. Tate is lying seriously ill at the Longton Cottage Hospital, suffering from pneumonia, developing from influenza. He came to Hanley at the beginning of last week, after doing a good deal of travelling in connection with his various productions in the principal towns of the country. He had contracted slight influenza in Liverpool, but during the week he became rather worse, and had to keep to his room at the Grand Hotel, Hanley. Towards the end of the week his condition improved a little, but on Saturday night and Sunday morning, owing to the development of pneumonia, his condition gave cause for alarm, and on Sunday afternoon he was removed to Longton Cottage Hospital. A London specialist was summoned, and Miss Clarice Mayne hurried to the Potteries to visit her husband in hospital. This she did on Monday morning, afterwards catching the early afternoon train to town in order to appear in the evening performance at the Hippodrome.

V.A.F. Meeting.

The adjourned meeting of the V.A.F. will be held at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday, at 7 p.m., when the question of the Gulliver offer will be discussed. A full report of last Sunday's meeting will be found on page 14.

'Flu Victims.

We are sorry to hear that Elvin Hedges has had influenza rather badly during the last couple of weeks. In consequence, that popular rag-time trio, Hedges Brothers and Jacobson, have not been working for the last fortnight.

The fell fiend, too, seems to be claiming victims in the managerial ranks as well as among the artists. Calling in to the Grand, Clapham, last week, we found that Mr. J. Joseph Ellis, the manager, was on the sick list, and that Mr. S. A. Goldman was acting in his place.

Variety Artists' Federation.

Members of the V.A.F. are requested to note that five death levies are now due upon the 1922 books. Red stamps four.

Executive Committee Election, 1922.

The election for the Executive of the V.A.F. is now in progress. Voting papers may be obtained at all the principal agencies and upon application to the secretary at the head office, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.2. Poll closes Feb. 6, 12 noon. Papers arriving after that time will not be counted.

Vaudeville Club Snooker.

The draw for the semi-final of the Vaudeville Club Snooker Handicap is as follows: Jim Mooney v. Lew Stephan, and Skipper Wright v. Donald Davis. With four such stalwarts remaining there ought to be a thrilling finale.

Death of Madame Golda.

We regret to hear that Madame Golda, of the Golda Quartet, died at Southsea on Saturday, after sixteen weeks' illness, from pneumonia and heart failure.

Holborn Empire's New A.M.

Congratulations to Mr. T. F. Fitzgibbon—and also to the L.T.V. management—on his promotion to the assistant managership of the Holborn Empire as from last Monday week. It is an instance of well-deserved preferment. Old habitués of the Holborn have watched with interest the progress of Mr. Fitzgibbon, who commenced his business life at the hall as a page 6½ years ago, and at once attracted attention by his general smartness and invariably polite demeanour.

Will Evans' New Farce.

"Tons of Money" is the title of a new three-act farce written by Will Evans, the popular comedian, and Arthur Valentine. It will, it is expected, be produced by Leslie Henson and Tom Walls early in the spring at a West-End theatre.

Novel Matinee for Glasgow Charities.

The Alhambra is giving a special matinée of their Wylie-Tate pantomime on Thursday, January 26, in aid of the infirmaries. On this occasion the children in the panto. will play all the principal parts, and Dorothy Ward, Gwyneth Keys, Shaun Glenville, and Wee Georgie Wood will retire into the chorus.

On Friday the Pavilion give a matinée at which all the panto. stars will appear, and the proceeds will go to benefit the W. F. Frame Memorial Fund of the Scottish Musical Artists' Benevolent Fund.

On Thursday last the Coliseum panto. company held a flag day for the unemployed, when Lily Morris, Jack Edge, and all the others did heroic work for the cause.

Old Folks at the Pantomime.

The old folks from "Brinsworth" spent a most enjoyable afternoon on Thursday last, when, at the invitation of Mr. John Morgan, the proprietor of the Kennington Theatre, they witnessed Arthur Rigby's successful pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." Harry Claff, who is "the Bold, Bad Baron" of the play, belied the character he is portraying by getting his fellow artists to subscribe to provide the visitors with refreshments, and a liberal supply of tobacco, cigarettes, chocolates, and teas were handed round. Mr. Morgan further showed his generosity by donating the whole takings of the matinée to the V.A.B.F. Harry Marlow, the organiser of the fund, in a few words from the stage, thanked Mr. Morgan for his kindness, after which an excellent collection was taken in the auditorium. Messrs. George French, A. C. Astor, Chas. Kasrac, and Alf. Herald acted as stewards, and Miss Sylvia Rosen (the Kennington's lady manager) worked very hard to ensure the success of the afternoon.

Sam Mayo at Billiards.

On Saturday, at Burrough's Hall, Soho-square, in the first half of his heat with J. G. Taylor, of Walsall, for the Amateur Billiards Championship, Sam Mayo had the distinction of making the highest break in the shape of 52, an all-round compilation in which the well-known comedian was sure in his cannon-play and hazard striking. In addition, he made breaks of 22, 45, 33, 22, 26 and 31, Taylor's breaks being 24, 33, 20, 39, 38, 46, 36, 38, and 30 (unfinished). The closing scores were: J. G. Taylor (in play), 1,001; Sam Mayo, 831.

Consistently good form by Taylor on Monday won him the first heat, Sam Mayo being beaten by 524 points. The Walsall player made no fewer than a dozen breaks of over 30, these being 40, 34, 102, 38, 39, 34, 64, 57, 38, 39, 53, and 44 (unfinished). Mayo's highest being 29, 33, 35 (twice), and 30. Result: Taylor 2,000, Mayo, 1,476.

Death of Fred Murray.

Fred Murray, the well-known song-writer, who died after a lengthy illness, on the 11th inst., was interred at Norwood on Tuesday of last week. Ben Albert and Fred W. Leigh, the latter a collaborator with the deceased in many famous songs, were at the graveside, as was also a contingent from the Post Office, with which Mr. Murray had long and honourable connections.

Death of Arthur Dashwood.

The death occurred on the 11th inst., at his residence, 1, Dixon-road, Small Heath, Birmingham, of Arthur Dashwood (Bert Evans). Mr. Dashwood who had been in failing health for some time, had been associated with variety and show matters for many years, and had been in turn comic vocalist, illusionist, champion shot, and impresario. He had managed the Keeley and Pattison Irish Circus, and had acted as

[*Photo, Navana, Ltd.*
MISS GRACIE EGBERT.

Miss Gracie Egbert, who, as understudy of Miss Winifred Roma, played Fairy Queen at a few moments' notice in the London Hippodrome pantomime on Saturday.

business manager to the Bostock and Wombwell No. 1 Menagerie, and had also managed such star fistic performers as John L. Sullivan, Peter Maher, and "Pedler" Palmer, and was manager of the first "World's Fair" held at Olympia. In later years he became an hotel-keeper, his last house being the ancient Stannard's Hotel of Rugby.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks donations of £5 5s. from Messrs. Osborn and Osborn and £5 from Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Pocock, both per Miss Lottie Albert. Also Mrs. Samuel Lawrence for her subscription of 10s. 6d. and the Rev. W. Kingsbury for his annual donation of 10s. 6d. Miss M'Lita Dolores is thanked for a gift of spoons and sugar-tongs for the use of the Guild.

The Guild's annual matinée is to take place late in March at the New Oxford, by kind permission of Charles B. Cochran.

The Terriers.

Owing to the fog on Sunday evening last it was impossible to hold a meeting. The election of officers for February will be held on Sunday next. A discussion on "The Decadence of Vaudeville" will be opened by the secretary.

Palladium to be a Theatre.

Owing to its great success, the Palladium pantomime, "Aladdin," is now being presented twice daily at 2 and 7.45, and with its fine cast including the Misses Lorna and Toots Pounds, Miss Jenny Benson, Mr. Will Evans, and Mr. Charles Austin, continues to draw crowded houses. Mr. Charles Gulliver announced last week that the Palladium, which, with its three performances daily and its all-star programmes has long been one of the premier variety houses in the West End, would henceforth be run as a theatre, with a high-class revue to follow the pantomime.

Liverpool Charity Matinee.

Recently a great matinée was given at the Liverpool Empire in aid of the Liverpool Police Clothing Association, which provides garments for poor deserving people, resulting in the sum of £373 being raised. The event was a great success, and must have afforded much satisfaction to all concerned—Mr. R. H. Gillespie, managing director of Miss' Empires, Ltd., who kindly lent the theatre; Mr. George Manners, the popular manager, who worked hard towards securing the best talent for the occasion; and the many artists who generously gave their services.

For South Africa.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday, the 20th inst., per R.M.S. "Kildonan Castle," to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Riskit and Betty, The Melodians.

On the Links.

A very interesting match was played at Portsmouth recently between the "Come On, Steve" company and the "Oh! Laugh" company. The former was represented by Eddie Whaley and Garry Lynch, and the latter by Billy Caryll and John MacKay. The course was a 9 hole one, and 36 holes were played. The match resulted in a victory for the "Oh, Laugh" company, though the game was a very exciting and close one, and was on each occasion "all square" on the last hole, Billy and Micky winning on the last round. It was a great game, and thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

To Artists Playing Chatham.

Mr. John MacKay, of the "Oh! Laugh" company, writes that artists playing Chatham will be well advised to make their headquarters at the Mitre Hotel, where he stayed recently, and had a very comfortable week. The hotel is under new management, and artists are specially catered for at very moderate terms.

Laying in Stock.

Great amusement has been caused in music-hall golfing circles by the Two Rascals (Eddie Fields and Chas. O'Donnell). It appears that these two worthies have been begging and borrowing all the old golf balls they could lay their hands on, and have collected a sack full. Now comes to light their fell intent. They are off to Australia any day now, and they are going to keep themselves in practice by driving off the main deck into the sea. The Two Rascals, by the way, open at Melbourne on March 3.

Congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Judge (Ida Sanger) have been the recipients of many congratulations on the arrival of a little son on Jan. 11, and wish to thank their many friends for kind wishes.

Illness of Mr Trueman Towers.

The condition of Mr. Trueman Towers, manager at the Leicester Palace, who has been seriously indisposed for some time, is, writes our Leicester correspondent, very much the same.

Stars in the States.

News has just come to hand from Bert Errol, recording the wonderful hit at the Orpheum, Brooklyn, on Dec. 28, made by Ella Retford, with whom he was sharing head-line honours. Bert also relates what a happy New Year's week they spent in company with Tommy Dawe and Mrs. Errol, owing to the hospitality of American friends. The Press were unanimous in praise of both artists, and concluded by saying that if Brooklyn had a town key, they would be welcome to it. Bert sails for England, by the Aquitania, on February 6, and is due to open on the Moss and Stoll circuits next month

The Water Rats.

It seems probable that the gap in music-hall social and benevolent life caused by the passing of the Grand Order of Water Rats, will not remain unfilled for long. Chatting recently with Mr. W. Bankier, the managing-director of the Vaudeville Club, we learnt that there is in course of formation a plan whereby the Order will revive, most likely under a new name, with bigger activities, and on a large scale generally. It was, of course, unthinkable that the association of thirty years could be lightly dropped and easily forgotten.

A Coming Star.

Little Jacqueline, the 3½ months' old daughter of Tucker, the well-known singing violinist, is, we hear, already betraying marked signs of musical talent, and croons in her cradle on the slightest provocation. Congratulations to Tucker and his wife, charming Miss Violet Essex, on their promising first-born.

Marie Kendall.

That popular comedienne, Marie Kendall, commences a long season in town this week at Collins's, at which house her latest number, "On a Cold and Frosty Night," is proving one of her biggest successes. Later in the week, Marie hopes to introduce another new number, "My Old Man's Gone Away," by Messrs. Dan Whitley, Carter and Carlton.

TO OUR SPORTING READERS.

If you follow the "sport of kings" you have probably noted the general success which has followed the selections of our racing correspondent—who is one of the most expert judges in the country—since the jumping season commenced.

We give below the results as regards those of his selections in last week's issue which actually went to the post, for it has to be remembered that in some cases he is writing a week ahead of events—always a difficult task.

WEDNESDAY (two runners).
ZARANE (to win) .....(won) 6 to 4
DINAH MORRIS (given as "the danger" in same race, and only beaten a head and a head..(third) 8 to 1
THURSDAY (two runners).
EXPEDITIOUS (to win).....(won) 4 to 7
JOBY (only starter out of four "likely" scorers in his race) (second) 6 to 1
FRIDAY (two runners).
NAREESH (to win) .....(won) 4 to 11
FAIR ISLE (to win) ..... unplaced
SATURDAY (one runner)
CYLENIUS (to win) .....(second) 7 to 2
MONDAY (two runners).
TOPEDOWAKE (given for a place) (third) 100 to 8
JOBY (given for a place) .....fell

FALLING STARS FALLACY.

BY BRANSBY WILLIAMS.

Since the announcement that the Palladium would give up Variety, the papers have been filled with the cry that variety is dead. That it has been killed by the "artist" and the entertainment tax. I will not enter the arena of argument over the tax.

There has been a slump in everything throughout the country. The general business men of the country blame the exchange and our burden of taxation. In variety circles one or two managers blame only the artist.

They are talking of the "Falling Stars." They seem to forget that many stars are still booked ahead, and that they are decrying their value before they put them in the public window for sale. Is not this a great mistake?

I am not defending the artist who has relied on his old material by any means. Those artists deserve condemnation from managers and public. But, on the other hand, do some of the managers encourage originality and constant change? Personally, I have given seven new shows in six years.

I am now joining the ranks of managers, and becoming an actor-manager, and going into the provinces for six months with a three-act play, "David Copperfield." If I fail, I shall not blame the members of my company.

Another thing that in my mind is the cause of staleness in variety is that artists were giving their services daily, free, during the war for charity shows, and raising money for every good cause. But they became so familiar with the public that familiarity has brought contempt. The "Tommies" saw programmes that no manager could ever put on and pay.

When the war started the cry then was we must "share" or "die." So the 50-50 came about, and then artists were added to bills that made it impossible for us to get our salaries. Then the business "boomed," but the managers soon stopped the "sharing." The artists were not thanked for the full houses, but some managers just forgat how clever they were, and so thoughtlessly and indiscriminately booked ahead.

There have been American artists brought over to show us novelty, but their salaries in some cases have been double many English salaries, and the public, not knowing them, have not rolled up in their thousands.

Let us all be fair. The lazy artist must be condemned, but do not blame us all and call us "Falling Stars." Don't tell the public variety is dead. It is not dead. But "types" are dead, because of the copies. Who encourages the cheap copy? Encourage originality. Encourage conscientious artists, men and women.

I feel very strongly that artists and managers should get together and prove variety is alive.

Albert Vivian Peake.

At Finsbury Park, on Monday week, that delightful musical ensemble, presented by Albert Vivian Peake, will make its reappearance in town after a most successful tour on the Moss circuit.

Rene Ralph.

We hear that Rene Ralph, who is playing principal boy, in Wylie and Tate's panto., at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, has made a decided hit and has been complimented by all concerned for her fine performance. Rene has a new song, written by herself, and composed by Paul Thomson, entitled "I'm Always Falling in Love with Someone."

A Clever Deputy.

Owing to throat trouble, Mr. Melville Gideon was unable to appear with the Co-optimists at the Palace Theatre during the latter half of last week. An excellent deputy was forthcoming in that clever pianoforte entertainer, Mr. Norman Long, who scored a distinct success with the song, "Nursery Rhymes," stories, and his impressions of "I'm for Ever Blowing Bubbles," which he paraphrases as a Chopin Nocturne, Debussy's "Military Patrol," and Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody.

Dorothy McBlain.

Miss Dorothy McBlain, the unique siffleuse, is this week completing a successful tour of the Scottish and Northern Moss halls at the Newcastle Empire. She returns to London, and resumes her Stoll dates at the Shepherd's Bush Empire next week.

Chas. Willmott.

At the Empress, Brixton, on Sunday last, one or two of the artists were unavoidably absent from the National Sunday League concert, owing to the bad weather. Mr. Chas. Willmott (the popular assistant manager of the Empress) offered his services to Mr. Doultfire, the representative of the League, and kept the audience interested and amused for half an hour in selections from his repertoire of monologues and recitals, meeting with a hearty reception. This made Mr. Willmott's third appearance at the Empress under the auspices of the N.S.L.

Felovis.

After an extensive Continental tour, during which he played a whole month's season at the Alhambra, Paris, and a similar period at a leading Rotterdam house, Felovis, the juggler, has now returned to England. He is this week at Southport. Felovis's skill in juggling balls, lighted torches, and lighted lamps is amazing. He is Swiss by birth, was originally trained as an architect, and draws almost as well as he juggles. He is married to a beautiful Scottish girl, Miss Jeanie Allan, who assists him professionally.

Arthur and Lawrence Anarto.

At the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Arthur and Lawrence Anarto are proving very popular in the panto. "Humpty-Dumpty," in which they are playing the parts of King and Queen, and are responsible for hearty laughter whenever they are on the stage. One of the most amusing scenes is that depicting Arthur and Lawrence on the road in a motor-bike and sidecar—which, by the way, is their own property. This has proved so successful that they have decided to present this scena on the Halls, and will be first seen at the Hippo., Nottingham, on March 6 next. Although this panto. has been playing to wonderful business and with extra matinées, the run must end on Saturday week owing to prior bookings. After a brief rest the boys resume at the Palladium, Southport, on Feb 13

PALATE PLEASURE!

MASON'S
"O.K." SAUCE

STOMACH EASE!

LADIES' GUILD "AT HOME."

Presentation to Miss Lottie Albert.

An interesting little ceremony took place at the Music Hall Ladies' Guild "At Home," at the offices, 18, Charing Cross-road, on Friday last, when the Committee presented Miss Lottie Albert with a handsome French striking Ormolu clock, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Miss Lottie Albert (Mrs. Oscar Osborn), in recognition of her devoted and untiring efforts on behalf of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, January 18, 1922." The presentation was made by the senior Vice-President, Mrs. Charles Coborn, and eulogistic speeches as to Miss Albert's unremitting services to the Guild were made by Mr. Douglas Stuart, Mr. Charles Coborn, and Mr. Henry Marlow (organiser of the V.A.B.F.). Among the ladies and gentlemen present were Mrs. Samuel Lawrence, Mrs. Nat. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kasrac, Mr. Alf. Herald, Mr. B. Elvin, Miss Ettie Osborn, Mrs. Jean Weitzer, Mrs. Annie Bru, Mrs. Jennette S. Levin, Mrs. Celia V. Stein, Mr. E. Wheatley, Mr. Fred Herbert (Secretary, V.A.F.), and others.

Hal Wright.

Last week, at the Holborn Empire, Hal Wright was a big favourite with his burlesques. Hal, who is shortly producing a new number, entitled "Signor Spahgetti," will be at New Cross next week, and after playing the other Moss halls in town, will be back again on the L.T.V.

Sam Mayo.

Sam Mayo, who was at Camberwell last week, has undoubtedly scored a big hit with his new act. He opens as usual, and after his first song sits down at the piano, still in his familiar dressing-gown garb, and reels off some witty patter, and sings a number of ditties which call for hearty laughter. His concluding song, "Johnny Walker," makes a fine curtain, and brings down the house. This week Sam is at Collins' and Willesden.

The Two Fishers.

The athletic scenic novelty, "A Florida Enchantment," presented by the Two Fishers, has been meeting with much success around the Moss tour since these artists made their appearance in town at New Cross in December last.

Victor Gould.

Regarding the new show to be shortly produced by Victor Gould, mentioned in our columns recently, we hear that Victor has composed his own numbers, but that Percy Tarling is responsible for the words of one of the songs to be used. We understand that Victor will retain the piano.

Billy and Doris Harley.

Those versatile entertainers, Billy and Doris Harley, are concluding at the T.R., Windsor, a most successful panto. season, in which they have been playing the Page and Cinders. Their clever work has won golden opinions in the Press. On Monday next Billy and Doris open on the Moss tour at Birmingham, and will be in town from April 19 next for two months.

Hope Charteris and Eve Dickson.

Last week, at the Victoria Palace, those delightful entertainers, Hope Charteris and Eve Dickson, presented their new act at this house for the first time, with great success, being obliged to respond to many curtain calls nightly for their clever and artistic performance. During the week they had three offers for production, which, however, could not be entertained owing to their present bookings. On Wednesday evening Miss Charteris had the misfortune to sprain her ankle on leaving the theatre, and for the remainder of the week played with great difficulty unbeknown to those in front. Miss Charteris wishes to thank the staff and Jack Williams (stage manager) for their great courtesy, which enabled her to make her appearance under such trying circumstances.

Victor King.

Victor King, "the vocal fellow," concludes next Saturday a pantomime season with John Tiller's "Red Riding Hood" at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton. In a few weeks' time Victor may be seen as leading light comedian in an important production, for which he is now negotiating. Victor, who is booked on the principal tours, has been offered a season at Blackpool by John Tiller for the summer.

Pearl Mitchell and Sister

News to hand from South Africa tells us of the success made by the above act, and we hear that audiences are very enthusiastic in praise of their fine performance. Opening at Cape Town, they went from there to play a month's season in Johannesburg. Pearl and Sister send their regards to all friends this side.

THE OPEN ROAD.

Whom Shall We Meet on the Way?

The following motorists will be on the road on Sunday:—

Robb Wilton, London to Sheffield.
Mart and Pep, Manchester to Pontypridd.
Leslie Strange, Bristol to Leicester.
Billy and Doris Harley, Windsor to Birmingham.
Roxy La Rocca, Bristol to London.
Fred Duprez, London to Liverpool.
Hilda Nelson, London to Bristol.
Billy Caryll and Hilda Monday, Aldershot to London
Noni and Horace, London to Dundee.
Jack Warman, Birkenhead to Manchester.
Bros. Hanaway, Castleford to Llandudno.

The Pall-Malls.

The Pall-Malls, who are off to the Continent for two weeks for a well-earned rest, are due back in London on Feb. 13 on the L.T.V. for one more week. They then go to the provinces until September, returning to town for the Moss tour.

Ruth Mazette.

We hear that Ruth Mazette, who was for many years associated with the act of Mazuz and Mazette, has arrived in the States, and is enjoying a much-needed rest. Miss Mazette wishes to be remembered to her many friends on this side.

Nicol and Martin.

Those "two drops o' Scotch," Nicol and Martin, are meeting with great success in their novel and entertaining act in the provinces. This week they are at the Palace, Leicester, and when they return to town to play Finsbury Park in a few weeks, several new features will be noticed.

Hengler Bros.

At the Empire, Cardiff, the Hengler Bros. are playing the Brokers' Men in "Cinderella," in which they introduce their own speciality. Arnold and Cecil have been glad to renew acquaintance with many chums of their schooldays in this town.

Variety at Palmers Green.

That delightful musical scena, "Gems of Melody," presented by Miss Hilda Nelson—which was topping an excellent bill at the Hippo., Nottingham, last week—has been specially booked to appear this week at the Palmadium Cinema, Palmers Green.

Alec Regan.

In the new Karno production, "1922," which was successfully launched last week at the Empire, Nottingham, Alec Regan proves himself a most versatile artist, as, in addition to singing several numbers, he appears in many scenes with Fred Kitchen and Marie Blanche. This elaborate production is this week at Finsbury Park.

The Real McKays in Demand.

Following their recent successes at the Palladium, that popular act, The Real McKays, is in big demand, and we hear they have been secured for return engagements on all the leading tours. At the Holborn Empire last week they proved one of the hits of the bill. This week they are at the Shoreditch Olympia, and next week conclude their town engagements, opening on the Moss Tour in the provinces the following week.

Maude May Murray.

A very popular feature of the pantomime at the Wimbledon Theatre, which will terminate its successful run on Saturday, has been the beautiful electrical dance act, introduced by Miss Maude May Murray, which, with its many brilliant lighting effects, has been loudly acclaimed at every performance. Miss Murray's act is all the more wonderful considering that for the last three weeks she has been working against her doctor's orders, with pleurisy and congestion of the lungs; but she has pluckily continued her engagement. We hear that after a short rest Miss Murray is likely to be seen in the West End.

Magic and Merriment.

As a result of a test carried out by means of a "laughometer" one afternoon last week, we hear that it was established that the magical programme at Maskelyne's Theatre scores no fewer than 582 laughs per performance. "Modern magic," says Oswald Williams, the chief laughter-maker in the programme, "is out for laughs wherever it can get them. The old box trick and the optical illusions which used so to thrill our grandparents are practically things of the past. The modern conjurer may pack all his 'props' in a handbag, travel lightly, and yet 'get across,' provided he seasons his illusions liberally with humour." This week's newcomers to the St. George's Hall are Lewis Davenport, who specialises in sleight-of-hand work; and Bi-Bo-Bo, known as the "Sousa of the Bells," who gives a novel entertainment.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

With the exception of Mr. Cyril Maude, who, as the interpreter in Mr. Tristan Bernard's funny farce, "French as She is Spoke," remains in the bill, there is an entirely new programme at the Coliseum this week. It is a delightfully varied one, with items to satisfy all tastes. Terpsichore is very daintily represented by Miss Edna Maude, whose dancing is as graceful as it is original. This clever little lady, besides being a perfect technician, has a charming personality and a most expressive face—two important qualities in a dancer. She gave four examples of her work on Monday afternoon, and is seen probably at her best in the Russian dance, a very virile affair, although there was a piquant quality in the pretty little "Chickette" dance which made a great appeal to the audience.

The old folk-songs are always very attractive to hear, and they are rarely better sung than by Miss Muriel George and Mr. Ernest Butcher, who are making a welcome reappearance in a generous selection from their long repertory. "No! John," "My Boy Billy" and "I Married a Lover" were perfectly sung, and this clever pair of singers were equally successful in their amusing rendering of a modern number, "Only a Lover Understands." There were one or two old songs in the musical and comedy interlude, in which Miss Constance Wentworth, Miss Gwen Knight, and Mr. Frederic Lake appeared; but their principal numbers were modern. Miss Constance Wentworth was heard to advantage in "I Did Not Know," and Mr. Frederic Lake, who has a light, effective voice, sang "An Evening Song" very pleasingly. Their main feature, however, was an operatic burlesque, "Monkeying With Faust."

The sensational turn this week is the troupe of Arab acrobats known as the Ten Tazzerwouilth. Their tumbling is amazing, and some of their pyramid work has to be seen to be believed. In one instance one of the troupe holds the nine others built into a pyramid of four storeys. Their success was instantaneous. Mr. Tex McLeod, who can spin a rope as well as he can tell a story, had his usual good reception. His patter is always so fresh and amusing that one often fails to realise the dexterity and cleverness of the work with the lasso, which goes on all the time he is chattering away. Mr. Cecil Lyle is another artist who keeps his novel magical act up to date, and some of his new illusions are wonderfully clever. Of the old favourites, Noni and his partner, Horace, are always outstanding successes in St. Martin's-lane. Noni is full of new ideas, and the whole of their entertaining act is a laugh from start to finish. To complete the bill and to add a further touch of variety to the afternoon, Lockhart's cleverly trained elephants made their usual successful appearance.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

A hearty reception is awarded Albert Chevalier, who, at the Chiswick Empire, renews his old triumphs and wins thorough every time; pathetic, but wonderful is the old tragedian, "The Fallen Star," and the great artist does it full justice—a cameo bit of rare skill. "Mrs. 'Enery 'Awkins," too, had all its old charm and the audience cheered it to the echo. "Memories in Harmony" affords Jeane Paule and Robert Anthony an opportunity to display their decided talents; very artistically they render "Drink to Me Only," etc., to say nothing of a dainty ditty dealing with piccaninies; altogether a particularly delightful turn, and, a "call."

Whit Cunliffe rapidly sings himself into the good graces of the audience. With all his wonderful energy he chants of "The Ladies," with a humorous recitative; his second ditty, "There's a Catch in it Somewhere," is a delightful vocal morsel of humour; but, perhaps, his greatest triumph is achieved in "The Eleven Ages of Man." Much merriment prevails at the eccentricities of Beaucaire and his Butlers; it is quite a novel turn, and Beaucaire juggles with wonderful skill to the amazement of every one concerned.

As funny as ever, Chris Richards proves a great favourite, garbed in funereal habiliments, Chris sings and dances to the infinite joy of the audience; his "business" is quite unique and his manipulation of a white hat aroused much interest; to watch him innocently looking down the barrel of a revolver, that, of course, fires, is real fun. Nothing can be better than "Old Memories," featured so successfully by George Ackroyd and Rose Hardy; the former wins immediate success as a flautist while as a harpist Miss Hardy ranks among the foremost; "Just a Song at Twilight" is exquisitely interpreted; other old favourites as "Annie Laurie," "On the Banks of Allan Water" are all beautifully rendered. From sunny Spain come the Mendes troupe of acrobats, wonderfully agile, elastic and entertaining: many of their tricks are novel and they are heartily applauded.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

The first-class programme at the Willesden Hippodrome this week includes Ernie Mayne, who, needless to say, convulses the house with his quaint songs, sung in his inimitable style, and his humorous patter. Margery Fulton is a very chic comedienne, her well-chosen songs being heartily received. Roy Dove, the juggling jollier, besides being immaculate in his appearance, is very clean in his performances with the indian clubs, straw hats, and bouncing balls.

Frank H. Fox is heartily applauded for his showman song and the number referring to the good old days, and winds up with a character-study song, "She's 73 To-day," which is from the pen of the musical director at Willesden, Mr. D. Watson Marsh. Victor Andre is quite an unusual dancer, his lightness of foot, especially in the Sailor's Hornpipe, being greatly admired. Madge Bilton and Max are a couple of comedy specialists of the first order, while Barry Burnett is very amusing as a Hebrew comedian. Radford and Russell provide an excellent musical entertainment on the dulcimers, and The Gladiators, two splendid athletes, give a clever demonstration of their agility and strength. Sam Mayo, billed to appear, was an absentee on Monday.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The programme here this week is a first-class one. Hilda Glyder is an artist to her finger-tips. Her songs, "I'm Not That Kind of a Girl" and "I'm a Little Nobody," brought down the house, and she had to respond with a third number. Robb Wilton, a clever comedian, convulsed everybody with his absurdity "Inspector of the Fire Brigade," in which he was assisted by Miss Florence Palmer. His song, "I Did Feel Annoyed," caused roars of laughter. Alec Kendal was very popular with his dancing and funny patter. Granville and his accordion was responsible for a turn out of the ordinary. He gave a superb rendering of "Humoresque" and an equally delightful performance of popular tunes, and had an ovation.

Barton and Ashley appear in an exceedingly clever comedy sketch of the burlesque type, "Back to Earth," centring round an Egyptian princess asleep for a thousand years and reawakened. The humour is very good. Geo. Mozart was received with much enthusiasm, and his "New Types of Everyday Life" tickled the audience immensely. The Hadens, dainty singers and dancers; Rose Cambry, the popular comedienne, and Cornalla and Eddie, of "Toss 'Em and Miss 'Em" fame, all added to the enjoyment of the evening.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

This week, Hidalgo Migliar is producing a very attractive musical act in his great vocal quartette in Verdi's opera of "Rigoletto," the members of his company being Miss A. de la Belandier, soprano; Mr. Fred Finzi, baritone; Miss I. Ainsley, contralto; and Mr. Rob Villy, tenor. All have fine voices, Mr. H. Migliar is a very able conductor, and the act is heartily acclaimed. Tambo and Tambo have a bright act, and do all sorts of wonderful things with more tambourines than one can count. Ray Wallace is excellent at the piano, and gives very clever reproductions of popular artists. Ben Albert scored in his humorous "Deaf and Dumb" song and "Logic!"

The popular Australian entertainer, Albert Whelan, gave some capital whistling solos, and scored with "McGinnes' Cake" and a "Wonderful Girl." He was accorded two curtain calls, and responded with "The Bee and the Butterfly" and "If We Only Understood?"

Marie Crisetta is an expert dancer, and gave clever examples of Spanish and Russian dances, also an Egyptian fancy—descriptive of a mummy coming to life. Percy Honri was in excellent form, and sang with great taste, "Silver Star," "Haunting," and "Bantry Bay." He received two curtains, and in response gave a popular selection, concluding with "The Lost Chord," splendidly rendered on his golden concertina, and accompanied by the orchestra. Jock Mills was very popular with his jokes, and the De Havilands gave a very funny act, "Repairing a Telephone Wire." They are experts on the wire, and clever ground tumblers.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

G. H. Elliott, the original chocolate-coloured coon, tops the bill here this week, and his two items, "Dixie" and "Mary o' Mine," were heartily applauded on Monday. Eric Randolph, the original vagabond tenor, in his character song, touched many a latent chord in the hearts of all, and he received a flattering welcome. In response to calls, in addition to "Old Pal," he came before the tabs and gave a charming new song, "In a Little Garden," a contribution which admirably suited his vocal capacities.

Sam Barton was in great form in his dumb show efforts with a bicycle, keeping the house rocking with laughter. Paul Witt and May Stevens are polished entertainers of a first-rate order. Paul "pianos it" with great skill, and both sing wonderfully well. They made great hits with "Rock-a-by, Baby," "Mary Was a Country Girl," and the ever-popular "Mammy, Mammy." The Yiddish Players earned a great success with a one-act play, "Matter o' Money," the lines in many parts being of an unusually clever character. Of a different order, and of sparkling variety, were the Three Laurels (and a table), and Les Jardys, in a sensational gymnastic display, both acts being welcome variations in a fine programme.

THE GRANVILLE.

Miss Hetty Ruby, who is at the Granville this week, is a young lady with wonderful ability as an acrobatic dancer. The Stellios, a pigeon pair, also present some clever acrobatics, but of a different order. In these they are assisted by three remarkably clever little terriers, the antics of these canines adding considerably to the comedy element of the act.

Mr. Frank Benson is a diminutive comedian, whose talents are in inverse ratio to his size. His first number is a breezy nautical ditty, "I'm a Jolly Jack Tar." From this it is a far cry to Egypt's sunny climes, where Frank enacts one of the notables of the Land of the Pharaohs. Lastly, he appears as the most unsuccessful of criminal-catchers, "P.C. 22." Mr. Benson got a big reception and the audience would fain have had more. Miss Vesta Fay not only proves herself to be a good male impersonator, but also has a powerful voice, which she successfully exploits in a chorus number.

There was a hearty welcome for M. Louis J. Seymour, the light, bright, and up-to-date entertainer, who returns to England after a two years' successful tour in America. One of his brightest items is a well-written number with the significant title, "If It's the Woman Who Pays, Why Are the Men Always Broke?" Interspersed among his songs are some neat little anecdotes. There is a capital surprise finish to Mr. Seymour's act, which it would not be fair to disclose. The programme is completed by the Mufuziang Mancha Troupe, Mr. Henry D. Adams, the juggler; and Mabe and Charles Hutchins in some original burlesque impressions of piano acts.

"1922" AT FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Mr. Fred Karno's latest revue, "1922," made its London début on Monday evening at the Finsbury Park Empire. The production, which includes in its cast such stage favourites as Fred Kitchen, Marie Blanche, Alec Regan, Gladys Horridge, and many other clever performers, proves to be a capital "entertainment of the stage," and amply confirmed the very favourable and ample report from our Nottingham correspondent, which appeared in our issue of last week. The stage settings are elaborate, and at times of much beauty; the ladies' dresses are the last word in artistic taste; and the musical numbers, in generous measure, are tuneful and well interpolated.

Nor has the element of humour been overlooked, many highly diverting scenes, in which Mr. Fred Kitchen and Miss Marie Blanche are prominent, being presented. "The Tenement Scene," one of many such, being greeted with the heartiest laughter. In this scene, the tenement house, erected by an impecunious landlord, is only separated from the latter's residence by a low wall, and it will be realised that much droll business occurs between the landlord and his newly-arrived and "fly" tenants. Mr. Kitchen, Miss Blanche, Miss Gladys Horridge, and Con Clarke are prominent here. "Furniture on the Hire System," for which Miss Blanche and Mr. Alec Regan are mainly responsible, is another highly diverting episode. One of the cleverest items of the production is where life-size replicas of motor mascots, now so popular, alight from their positions on the bonnets of different cars, and indulge in a quaint dance—black cat, policeman, diving girl, and Mephistopheles being noticeable. Special mention must also be made of the tuneful singing contributed by Miss Elsie Carlisle, and the gorgeous and spirited finale—a magnificent scene. There can be no possible doubt as to the success of "1922," and Mr. Karno, Mr. Harry Grattan (the producer), and all concerned are to be cordially congratulated on their efforts.

THE HIPPODROME, GOLDER'S GREEN.

A large and enthusiastic audience assembled in the Golder's Green Hippodrome on Saturday afternoon last on the occasion of a dancing matinée given by the May Hare School of Dancing. And a remarkably good entertainment it was. Especially in respect of the manner in which the various dances and ballets were mounted and dressed—indeed, the last in particular—the performance was fully up to the best professional standard. The programme was a very long one, and, to do full justice to it would require more space than we have available. So we will confine ourselves to noticing the items which we liked best. Admirable was "The Stolen Child," a "Dance Poem," by W. B. Yeats, which was spoken by Miss May Hare herself, assisted by the revelries of a number of delightful kiddies in the guise of fairies. "In a Garden" was also a charming number, in which various flowers were impersonated by fascinating maidens.

Another delightful item was "Jack o' Lantern," in which about a score of tiny dancers, clad as elves and carrying miniature lanterns, held terpsichorean revels in a beautiful wood, and gained, probably, the biggest applause of the afternoon.

The final item was particularly good. This was entitled "The Broken Moonbeam," and was composed by Dudley Hare. The fantasy told how one night the moon was shining brightly and all was happiness with the moonbeams and the fairies, until accidentally one small moonbeam was broken and the light of the moon was diminished by clouds and rain. The fairies in sad plight implored the aid of the Wind, who referred them to the Echo of the Hills. This young lady suggested that she should bring a mortal from the world to sew up the moonbeam with a needle and cotton. So she procured a little girl, who successfully accomplished her task, when immediately all was happiness again, the clouds and rain disappear and the moon shines brightly as before.

This ballet, and many of the others, were arranged by Miss May Hare, while Mr. Dudley Hare, who directed the orchestra, was responsible for the composition of a good deal of the music.

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V.A.F. ANNUAL MEETING.

YEAR OF CONTINUED PROGRESS.

MR. CHARLES GULLIVER'S OFFER.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

The 16th annual general meeting of the V.A.F., held at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday night, was marked by lively discussions, which showed the interest of those members present in the conduct of the Association, but which prevented the agenda being carried out, and it was necessary to adjourn the meeting for a week.

Mr. Albert Voyce presided over a capital attendance, and was supported by Mr. Monte Bayley, Mr. Fred. Herbert (secretary), Mr. George Westland (Scottish agent), Mr. Maitland, and others.

The Chairman prefaced his reading of the annual report by saying that during the last year, owing to the wild and short-sighted policy of an active and extreme industrial minority, the trade unions of the country suffered considerably.

Most of the trade unions in the country suffered severely, too, owing to the terrible commercial stagnation. Yet the V.A.F. safely weathered the storm, thanks to its level-headed policy, and the dawn of 1922 revealed their organisation still advancing, as worthy, as honoured, and as powerful as ever, and in spite of the many increased demands upon its strength and resources.

Continued Progress.

In the report, read by Mr. Voyce, it was recorded that the year 1921 marked a period of continued progress, in spite of the adverse conditions.

The number of renewals of membership was the highest in the history of the Federation, totalling 3,765, as against 3,248, an increase of 517.

The scale of subscription stamps was the highest yet recorded, amounting to £5,011 7s. 9d., against £4,765 6s. 6d., an increase of £246 1s. 3d.

The number of "Star" cards issued was also a record, totalling 1,892, against 1,625, an increase of 267.

Owing to the peculiar changes in the entertainment world, the number of membership books totalled 4,880, against 5,631. The decrease must be attributed to the apathy of some hundreds of cinema crowd workers, whose working conditions the V.A.F., in association with the A.A., was anxious to improve.

Because of the failure of these crowd workers to renew their cards of membership, it was decided to postpone further effort on their behalf until such time as British "star" film actors gave some sign that they were willing to help in an attempt to improve the working conditions of their less fortunate colleagues.

The recent serious slump and the consequent increase in unemployment, drove many tryers off the road, and thereby affected the number of applications for membership. In support of this contention it was shown that fully 90 per cent. of present-day variety programmes are comprised of V.A.F. members, hence it is safe to assume that many who joined the Federation in 1920 are no longer in the business.

Owing to the increase in renewals the number of new members was not so great; they totalled 1,115 against 2,141, and entrance fees amounted to £279 19s. against £606 5s. As the V.A.F. grows stronger, there must, of necessity, be a gradual decrease in new members.

Interest on investments amounted to £583 3s. 9d., against £638 5s. 8d., due to fall in the rate of interest. Receipts for the year totalled £6,044, against £6,092 16s. 1d., the decrease being mainly due to fall in entrance fees. The total expenditure was £6,036 13s. 6d., against £5,588 1s. 1d.

There were 24 deaths during 1921, and the levy stamps sold totalled £2,296 5s. 6d., the highest yet recorded, against £2,182 1s.

The Emergency Fund totals £150 13s. 11d., against £240 19s. 9d. The decrease was due to donations to charities within the industry, and by grants to other deserving objects.

Loans repaid totalled £163 3s. 4d., against £66 8s. 2d. Under the fire insurance scheme certain members benefited to the extent of £184 [illegible]s. 3d., as against £100 last year.

The law charges account, usually made up to the end of June, showed that £977 15s. 8d. was paid against £1,036 7s. 1d. in the previous year.

Extremists Busy.

Scottish requisition meetings entailed an expenditure of £116 10s. The said requisition was prompted by an attempt on the part of an active minority to turn the V.A.F. into an extreme industrial union. In order to defeat the said attempt the committee ordered that special meetings should be held in Cardiff, Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle, Glasgow, and London, and that both the chairman and organiser should place the committee's views before the general body of members with the object of frustrating the efforts of the minority to alter the hitherto and still successful policy of the Federation. The result was overwhelmingly in favour of the executive.

Referring to increased expenses, the report stated that the committee was of opinion that special provision should be made to meet unforseen increases, and they had therefore tabled a motion for the setting up of a General Protection Fund in order to relieve the growing cost of litigation, and to prevent raising the subscription, as other trade unions had done.

Investments, cash at bank, and in hand, brought the general funds up to £16,923 19s. 6d. The investments amounted to £16,263 13s. 4d., against £15,764. At no previous period had the investments reached as high a total.

Glasgow office expenses amounted to £184 0s. 2d., against £115 11s. 6d. Against this the subscription stamps now amounted to £110 15s. 6d.; death levy stamps, £73 14s. 6d.; "star" cards, £174 12s. 6d.; and entrance fees, £16 15s., a total of £380 17s. 6d., as against £363 12s.

During the year free legal advice had been afforded to at least 250 members, whilst the account of the legal advisers shows that 75 legal cases had been dealt with. Close on £1,000 was spent on the legal protection of members, and fully 96 per cent. of that had been devoted to the protection of the lesser members of the organisation. Monies recovered for members totalled close on £1,000.

V.A.F. and Passport Office.

An arrangement had been come to with the Passport Office whereby it is now possible to prevent any irresponsible individual from obtaining passports for the purpose of exploiting young, struggling talent abroad. All applications of heads of troupes were now subject to recommendation by the V.A.F., and such recommendation was in all cases a guarantee that the artists concerned were going to a bona-fide engagement, and were being sufficiently paid.

Ex-Service Men's Relief.

From the British Legion grants, amounting to £600, had been obtained in recognition of services rendered by Variety Artists on Warriors' Day, as well as £100 from the Officers' Association. Every penny was devoted to the relief of ex-service men.

The V.A.F. ban on ex-enemy artists has been rigorously enforced and attempts made by agents to foist such artists on the British public had been defeated.

Safeguarding the 1919 Award.

The V.A.F. fought an important case in Liverpool which arose out of the 1919 award, as to the interpretation of the occupancy and possession clause, and also the extra performance clause. The V.A.F. contention was upheld as correct and the same result followed an action at Pontypridd. These two cases cost the Association £168.

As a result of repeated complaints from the V.A.F. and A.A. against certain callous agents, the L.C.C. sought powers to enable them to revoke any agency licence at any period of the year, and the Bill embodying the necessary clause was ordered to be reported to the House of Commons.

A Bill for the Registration of Managers was drafted by a special committee of the E.N.I.C., and was ready for introduction to the House of Commons. The Bill had been endorsed by the A.A., the M.U., and the N.U.T.E. and had been promised the support of several influential M.P.s Steps taken to defeat the Performing Animals Bill were recorded and the defeat of the measure was attributed largely to the V.A.F. action.

The Rotterdam Conference.

Attention was called to the action taken at the Rotterdam Conference, which was called to set up a new World's League of Nations, ostensibly for mutual protection, but basically as a weapon of offence against the V.A.F.'s exenemy policy, in spite of the British protest, the principles of a League were accepted. Great Britain stood out secure in the knowledge that no such League could function without the V.A.F.

Germany, in return for her World's League, has since flooded all the adhering countries with German acts, who have ousted the home act. It is financially and economically impossible for a British performer to work in Germany or Austria, yet these people could fulfil engagements here at salaries 70 per cent. lower than English acts, and still save money. But for the ex-enemy embargo there would be at least 300 ex-enemy acts dispossessing British acts every week and with no corresponding outlet for their activities or means of existence.

After thanking the various officials for their excellent work, Mr. Voyce concluded: Progress is a living movement, he said. Nobody could say, after hearing that report, that the V.A.F. was not a living movement.

Scotland's Work.

Mr. George Westland, the Scottish agent, said most of them seemed to regard Scotland as being merely Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Glasgow. But that was only a beginning, and a very small beginning.

The greatest difficulty they had in Scotland had been with managers who had come in from other businesses. Then, when they got in deep water, they pleaded that they did not understand the business and asked for leniency.

The Scottish section had lost a good many members during the past seven or eight months through the terrible depression. It had been deplorable; many had only obtained small salaries, others none at all.

Mr. Westland went on to refer to the action of certain extremists, who had called a requisitioned meeting—which incidentally cost £110—and said that the outcome was satisfactory to the moderates of the Association. There was an idea that everything was done in London for the English members, and that nothing was thought about the Scottish members. That attitude had been entirely disabused, and whenever work became plentiful again the boys and girls who had fallen out would come back and help to swell the funds of the V.A.F.

Mr. David Taylor proposed the adoption of the report, which Mr. Harry Blake seconded.

Dressing-room Risks

Mr. J. Donald asked whether the insurance clause covered any property lost in the dressing-room.

The Secretary: No. Only by fire.

Mr. Donald: Is there no possibility of introducing something to safeguard artists when their dressing-rooms are not locked? You leave your clothes there, and next day they are gone.

The chairman explained that the position was governed by common law. If the clothes or properties were lost in the daytime and negligence could be proved on the part of the management, then there was ground for action. If you cannot prove negligence then you must lose.

"We have taken up many cases," said the chairman. "If the loss occurred at night, that was burglary, and was purely a matter for the police, and there was no ground for action against the management. The best way to safeguard property was for the member to insure himself. He would get moderate terms, and if an artist carried valuable properties about with him it would be advisable to insure."

Mr. Atlas put forward the suggestion in regard to fire that an arrangement might be possible for individual members to be associated with the general insurance by paying an additional premium and obtaining additional security. He mentioned that he himself suffered a loss of £600, and the £25 due under the general policy was but a drop in the ocean.

Mr. Herbert undertook to go into the matter, and see whether such a thing could be done. It was a question of whether the company would permit two insurances on one property.

Mr. O'Gorman wanted to know if managers had no responsibility for things left in the dressing-room.

The Chairman: Not unless you can prove negligence.

Mr. O'Gorman said he had been in the business forty-two years and had always been under the impression that the management was responsible for properties left in the theatre.

The chairman remarked that it all depended on circumstances. If they knew that the theatre was left open in the daytime and took no action, then they, to a certain extent, condoned the negligence.

Mr. O'Gorman: I take it you have taken legal advice?

The Chairman: We have, and have fought actions, some of which have been won and others lost.

Mr. Austin pointed out that if the managers were pressed, it would result in artists having to pack up every night and take their property away.

The Chairman said that those remarks were practically a reflex of statements made by the judge in a case they fought.

The report was then put and carried.

The balance-sheet, the principal figures of which are included in the report, and which was taken as read, came in for some criticism, the general opinion being expressed that efforts should be made to increase the income or reduce the expenditure.

The Federation's Resources.

Mr. O'Gorman asked whether the Federation paid its way without the assistance of income from investments. He contended that no organisation should run unless it was run on a paying basis. At least they should see that the interest from investments was added to their coffers.

The question gave rise to some discussion, during which it was pointed out that the surplus was not all out of profits.

Eventually the balance-sheet was adopted.

The Chairman pointed out that the V.A.F. was the only trade union in this country to-day able to say that its resources were at from £3 10s. to £4 per member.

A Stormy Debate.

Considerable heat was engendered over the discussion around a proposal to alter Clause 8 of Rule 5. The matter had been deferred from the last annual meeting. The proposal was that Clause 8 of Rule 5 which reads as follows:—

"Persons joining the Federation who, at the time of joining, have attained their 50th birthday, shall not be eligible for the death levy, and shall not be required to make the death-levy payments,"

be amended. After the words "death levy" in line 2 insert "Until they have been members 2 years from the date of their first payment, and it shall be retrospective with respect to those members who have joined since the above rule has been in force." And all subsequent words in Clause 8 of Rule 5 be deleted.

Mr. Bayley pointed out that the rule had been discussed at provincial meetings, and already there was a majority of 165 in favour of this rule, and Mr. Voyce said that the proposal was merely a reversion to a previous rule, and would only affect about 40 or 50 of their members.

There was a good deal of opposition against the proposal, and some resentment at the fact that the provincial votes already outweighed the meeting.

The question was asked as to whether the rule applied to working members, and it was made clear that that was the intention.

Finally the chairman reasserted that the proposal was nothing new. It was merely a return to an old rule. He was prepared to give a guarantee that every applicant over 50 should be a working member.

Mr. Ono said that if they passed this rule they were going against the procedure of all friendly societies. Here they were proposing to take in members of 50 at exactly the same price as the others. We are holding a bait for what must be an unworthy type of person—insufferably selfish, he said. They proposed to bribe him in order to get him in, when if he had been interested in the V.A.F. he would have joined years ago.

Others emphasised the fact that there were many able performers over 50, and it was advisable to get them into the V.A.F.

The chairman said the rule was in existence in 1916.

A member, referring to the provincial vote, said the only remedy members had was to carry on the discussion until ten o'clock, when the meeting automatically closed. It would then have to come before another meeting, and the opponents would have an opportunity of coming in greater numbers.

Another member raised the question of taking a card vote in such a case, and it was explained that such a procedure would cost about £100.

Mr. Bayley pointed out that members had their remedy in the referendum rule under which members disapproving resolutions passed at a general meeting could, if 100 members in full benefit petitioned, demand a vote of the entire membership of the Federation.

Mr. O'Gorman declared that the executive committee was usurping the authority of the general meeting.

The chairman said that a special general meeting could be convened in any part of the country, and if the members did not attend they could not help it. They had acted constitutionally.

Finally Mr. Taylor proposed that the resolution should be put, and Mr. Astor moved an amendment that the meeting should be deferred.

The amendment was carried, and the resolution was therefore deferred.

Mr. Bayley explained the following rule relating to political funds.

When the contributions to this fund are, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, sufficient for all necessary requirements, the Executive Committee may by resolution suspend the deduction of the penny per week from the membership subscription and allocate the whole of the sixpence to the general funds. When it is considered desirable to revive the Political Fund, notice of the intention to allocate a penny a week from membership subscriptions must be advertised in three consecutive issues of the official organ of the Federation, together with an intimation that all who object to this political contribution may claim their statutory rights as if the Political Fund had just commenced, or in accordance with Clauses 5, 6, 7, of Rule 44.

He said it was merely to bring them into line with the wishes of the Registrar General, and to make legal what they were doing now. The Political Fund was in suspension, and they thought it would not be wanted for some years. They wanted to do this to get the books in order.

The proposal was carried on the motion of Mr. Coborn, seconded by Mr. O'Gorman.

Mr. Charles Gulliver's Offer.

The next proposition, a new rule, said the chairman, required a great deal of consideration. The matter was put before the Glasgow meeting this week, and they voted in favour of it. However, he did not think their votes should count until after the decision of that general meeting, and he suggested that the matter should be deferred.

Mr. Gulliver had offered them eight music halls at a rental price of half the amount it would cost him to keep them closed.

It was decided on Thursday last that the officials should be empowered to take any steps they might deem necessary for obtaining data for submission to a special general meeting. He was taking certain steps with a view to obtaining the advice of some of the principal members of the Federation, and also one or two experts connected with variety and the running of theatres. He asked them whether it would not be better to defer this matter until the little business council he proposed to set up—it was not official, but merely to obtain data—had met to see whether there was anything in it, and consider the possibilities of Mr. Gulliver's offer.

He did not wish to make public all the facts without consulting his colleagues upon the matter. He was sorry to say that something had leaked out. He had asked the executive not to reveal certain information, and he was sorry to tell them that within two hours of his leaving the committee meeting the information was in the offices of various agencies in Charing Cross-road. That was the difficulty he was faced with, and he felt he was justified in calling in the advice of men of experience who had helped to build up that movement, who had helped to make that Federation. He wanted to get a quiet little corner chat, as it were, in their office with a few experienced men, and experts, to see if there was anything in the offer of Mr. Gulliver, and if anything could be done to reduce the ranks of the unemployed. They could rest assured that he would be among the first to suggest something being done in that direction.

Time would not permit of their going through the agenda, and he therefore respectfully suggested to them that it would be wiser to adjourn the remainder of the agenda until they had the evidence which they could then bring before them, and if they found there was something in it they could bring forward the resolution in regard to establishing the quarterly levy.

Mr. Donald asked who were the members who sat on the committee on the day referred to.

The chairman said he would not go into that.

Mr. O'Gorman: There always has been a leakage. It is disgraceful.

Mr. Taylor thought it was necessary that something should be said about the matter, as it was a question which could go so deep as to shake the very foundation of the V.A.F., and that was why he desired it.

The chairman, however, ruled Mr. Taylor out of order, and after a brief discussion it was decided that the meeting should stand adjourned until next Sunday.

Hear

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GLASGOW.

KING'S.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—On the departure of Mr. Courtneidge's "Gabrielle" production we have a visit of the new, romantic musical play, "The Golden Moth," which was accorded a hearty welcome on Monday. Mr. George Gregory as the Marquis has lots of opportunities for fun-making, and

Photo. by S. Langfier, Glasgow and London.

HUGH MACFARLANE.

Hugh Macfarlane, the popular manager of the King's Theatre, Glasgow, since its opening (1904). Has been in the employment of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham (now Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.) for the past thirty-four years.

misses none of them. Miss Mabelle George as Rose shares most of his scenes. Miss May Carpenter is a charming Alice and a sweet singer. Mr. Martin Iredale is a dashing Captain D'Artois, and Mr. Dennis Hoey makes a hit as the Blackbird. Two clever society dancers, Jeanette and Scott, contribute several items, including an Apache dance.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," goes merrily on its career, and is proving a great attraction. Mr. Will Fyffe scores as Will Atkins, and is ably assisted by the Brothers Larkum, the Bosun and the Mate. Miss Florence Helm as Robinson Crusoe and Miss Hilda Denton as Polly both give admirable impersonations, singing and acting with great charm.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; M., Mr. J. Walker; Mus. D., Mr. F. Rodgers.—Currie Enterprises, Ltd., present here a capital little revue, "Sparklets," which is meeting with much success. The company includes Mark Denniston, Eilleen Merrie, Jack E. Raymond, and Lyndon P. Moore.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich. Waldon; M., Mr. H. Murdoch.—"Peter Wilkins" continues to prove a laughing success here with Tommy Lorne and Bret Harte as leading fun-providers. Dorothy Meade is handsome and dashing as Peter, whilst a winsome Margie is found in Doree Hanbury, who is a capital dancer. Peel and Curtis are Hebrew comedians treading familiar paths, whilst Harold Shields as Goliath and Harry Elliston as the Dame contribute to the merriment.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. John Kirkpatrick; Mus. D. Mr. Ian Morgan.—Mr. Fred Collins' pantomime, "Aladdin," continues here, with the aid of Power and Bendon, who keep the fun going all the time. Miss Kitty Evelyn in the title-rôle sings and dances charmingly, while Miss Ethel Castaldini has established herself a great favourite. Mr. Arthur Lucan as the Dame helps greatly in the comedy line.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Richardson; A. M., Mr. Henry L. Bell; M. D., Mr. Henry Farmer.—Mr. Harry Day's latest production, "Rockets," is the attraction here. The leading lady, Miss Nellie Turner, is a most versatile artist. She is ably supported by Miss Lyle Jeffries, the Sisters Kirby, &c. The leading comedian, William Cromwell, keeps the audience in continual laughter, while Cyril Dunn gives able assistance.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. J. Kirkpatrick; Mus. D., Mr. Ian Morgan.—The successful pantomime, "Aladdin," continues to pack two houses nightly here. The chief mirth-provokers are Power and Bendon, who appear as Mack and Tosh. Aladdin is brightly interpreted by Miss Kitty Evelyn. A charming Princess is Miss Ethel Castaldini. Arthur Lucan appearing as Widow Twankey and Harry Gordon as Abanazer.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. L. Lewis.—The management's successful pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is now drawing to a close, and amongst those who will be missed here are Lily Morris and Jack Edge; while Winifred O'Connor, Vera and Elsa Owen, John E. Conan, and Burley and Burley have also become favourites. The company most generously organised a flag day last Thursday, the proceeds going to swell the local unemployment fund.

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SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M., and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. T. C. Hickson.—For the final week of the Carl Rosa season, the repertoire has included "Il Trovatore," "Rigoletto," "Angelus," "Tales of Hoffmann," and the ever-popular and welcome "Bohemian Girl."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; A. M., Mr. Maurice Mahoney.—"Sinbad the Sailor" still continues to draw full houses, and is proving an undoubted success.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Owing to arrangements previously entered into, the pantomime of "Jack and Jill" finishes its run this week.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. H. C. Savage; Asst. M., Mr. L. P. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. Bingley.—A splendid programme is headed by Herman Darewski, the famous composer, in a delightful scena, "Thirty Minutes of Melody," assisted by Misses Lena and Peggy Chisholm, Australian violiniste and pianiste; Rene Burnham and Clarise Clare, soprano vocalists; and Mr. Richard Neller, tenor. Interesting turns are also given by Scott Saunders, the popular comedian; Terry Wilson, light comedy star; Nina Martin, versatile impressionist; Ben Said, Algerian funfuror; the Soga Trio, Japanese artists; and James Hunter, the "Society ranconteur."

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1922.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR FEBRUARY 20 NOW DUE.

ALBANY WARD THEATRES, LTD.

Note.—Rehearsal at all theatres at 1 p.m. All artists must attend.

BARNSTAPLE THEATRE ROYAL.—Carlton Fredericks' company in "Sinbad," Feb. 2, 3 and 4.

BRIDGWATER PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks' company in "Sinbad," Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1.

CHIPPENHAM PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks presents "Bo-Peep," Feb. 2, 3 and 4.

FROME PALACE.—Carlton Fredericks' company in "Bo-Peep," January 30, 31 and Feb. 1.

SALISBURY PALACE.—The Roundabout Company present "The Roundabout."

WARMINSTER PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks' company in "Cinderella," Feb. 3 and 4.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—F. H. Fowler's company in "Rose Petals."

RAYMOND Touring France.

BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Sidney Rennef presents "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; Friday night, Christy Minstrels.

RAMSGATE PAVILION (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Shiels and Co., in "The Garden of Anna."

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Helen Duncanson.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Collins' pantomime, "Aladdin."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Jack Cromo's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—H. Pelton presents "Splash Me."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Prince Goldin and King, Britton and Weir, Roberts and Dean.

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Henry Lee's pantomime, "Old King Cole."

RAYMOND London Shortly.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—The Dudley Operatic Society present "Princess Ida."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—H. Levy's grand pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Messrs. Lindo and Gordon's Rep. Company.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See page 19.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES, LTD.

(See page 13.)

RAYMOND Touring France.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Four Amras, George Parr, Kasrac and Palmer, Bert Neilson, Nat D. Ayer, the Willenors, Musicus.

BRADFORD.—Pan and Girls, Four Sisters Martelloni, Billy Camp, Jenkins Bros. Maraso and Sooloba, Gus Fowler, Evelyn May and Pianist.

BURNLEY.—Max Erard and Zona Vevey and £1,000 organ, Sadler Elsie Four, Cymraes, Lily Eyton, J. E. Sutton, the Huntings.

CARLISLE.—Fred Le Cren's "Sinbad the Sailor."

HALIFAX.—"Sawing Thro' a Woman," Carmen and De Lor, De Lonra, Four Veronas, Frank Keen, Edward Williams, Lali and Rene.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Jack Byrne's "Red Riding Hood."

LEICESTER.—Company as booked. Rehearsal at all halls at 12 o'clock.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Jack Boot, Fred Maitland, Vine and Russell, Bros. Chalbert, Alfredo, the Buckleys, William Heughan.

WARRINGTON.—Harry Russell's "Cinderella."

RAYMOND Continental Tour.

MOSS EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—David Poole, Billy and Doris Harley, Max Darewski, Long Tack Sam and Co., George Lee, Les Jardys.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Jack and Tommie, Carr Lynn, The Melody Makers, Cyril Maude and Co. in "French as She is Spoke," Russell Carr, Wyn and Ivy.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Pompey Twins, Julien Henry, Two Frasers, Phil Rees.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Messrs. Wyle-Tate present "The Scrap-Book."

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present the Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal 11).—Jess and Tony, Jean Gray. (Will artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no variety agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre?)

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe" (second week).

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Three Laurels, Sterndale Bennett, G. H. Elliott, Lillian Burgess, Witt and Stevens, Dan Whitley, Madam Dalmere's Table Circus.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Cinderella."

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 11).—Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Mother Goose."

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—Haley's revuette, Winifred O'Connor, Lyons and Fay, Clifford and Westwood, Marcus, Brisbane Trio.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Harry Day presents "Rockets." (2nd week.)

HANLEY GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Cinque and Valet, Sara Williams, Gertie Gitana, Lake and Barrasford, Mazuz and Mazette Three, Ivy and Jack.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "Spangles."

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Martinis, Les Nosseins, G. P. Huntley and company in "Wallpapers," Will Hay, Princess Winona, The Five Jocks, Jose de Moraes.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sam Barton, Eddie Gray, Graham and Cohen, Frank and Vesta, St. Juste and Higgins, Florence Wray, Oscar and Willie Mirano.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present the Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Aladdin."

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present the Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Five Wartons, Wallie Pearce, Spencer Ward and Gertrude Long, Maidie Scott, Wilson Hallett, Horace Jones and Partner, Fujiwara.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Karno presents "1922." Cast includes Fred Kitchen, Marie Blanche, &c.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal 1).—Billy Tucker, Florence Smithson, Tom Clare, Hart and O'Brian, Manuel Vega, McDonagh and Russell.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Madge Bilton and Max, Austin Rudd, The Buchanans, W. H. Squire, Lily Fairney and Auriol Jones, Mlle. Terpsichore, King and Benson.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Messrs. Wylie-Tate present "The Garden of Allah."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Iizuka and Partner, Coram, Jay Whidden, Takio, G. W. Monkman, Jephson and Du Barri.

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Windsor, Edgar and Kellaway, Bert Terrell, Resista, Robb Wilton, Bush Bros., Bert Elliott and Doris Brunton.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal), 1.30).—Duncan and Godfrey, Victor Andre, Leslie Carter, Mary Leighton, Moore and Roby, The Jovers, Julian Rose.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Carl Rosa Opera Company.

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Stan Kavanagh, Hafg Bros. and Ryan, Malcolm Neil, Chas. and Billy Hartley, Irene Penso.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Monks of St. Bernard," George Calver, Felovis, George D'Albert, Fyne and Hurley. (Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns, bassoons, harp, and second-piano parts.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Robledillo, Lauri Howard, Kirkby and Hudson, The Gresham Singers, Daly and Healy, Joseph Cheetham.

VICTORIA PALACE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Two Bobs, Cicely Courtneidge, May Henderson, Gillie Potter Ristori and Partner, Scott Gibson, Miles Stavordale Quintette, The Neslos.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Elliott Savonas, Hunter and Bob, Morandinis, etc.

RAYMOND Continental Tour.

STOLL TOUR.

(See page 19.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

(See page 13.)

RAYMOND London Shortly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—The Great Carmo, Teddie Stream, Gardiner and Miller, Nellie Basnett, Winifred Clowes.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Roelgin's Parrots, 3 Van Dammes, Armstrong and Howarth, Fred. Keeton.

ATTERCLIFFE PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—The Anserouls, Jack Poulter, Marie Thompson, Versatile Twins, Harry A. Tunley, Francois, Alan and Fred.

AYR PAVILION THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Take a Rest" revue.

BATH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Burr and Hope, Clifford and Grey, Artemus, Cherry Lynn, Simon Wery Ensemble, Chas. Rich.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Geo. Anthony's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Albert De Courville's revue, "Pins and Needles."

GLASGOW PAVILION.—Fred Collins presents "Aladdin" pantomime.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Ruth Vincent, Barton and Ashley, Zellini, Winter and Bunny, The Vedras, Bryan O'Sullivan.

LUTON PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—The Edwards Trio, the Willow Duo, "Over the Hill."

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Billy Wells and Eclair Twins.

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PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"The Rose of Araby."

PETERBOROUGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 1).—Robert Courtneidge's "Arcadians."

READING PALACE THEATRE.—Seymour Hicks presents Isobel Elsom and Co. in "The Surprise," Les Rogers, Jack Rea and Betty Noble, Signor Nevotti, Sandford and Lyons, Carlotta Nossetti and Co.

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Joyce and Shields, Yetta and Elda, Bert Williams, Martyn and Florence, and company as booked.

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal 11.15, matinée 2.45).—Linga Singh and company, Esme Burke, Jack Stocks, The Cardles, Ladd West, Dean and Clifton, and the Elmar Trio.

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CHILDREN'S "FAIRYLAND" AT CHELSEA.

The handsome and commodious Palace Theatre at Chelsea was a veritable Fairyland on Saturday last, when 2,700 local youngsters were enertained by the kindness of the Syndicate Halls' directors. "Fairyland" was much in evidence, as the vestibule of the theatre was gay with coloured lights, festoons of greenery, and enormous Christmas trees, loaded with toys, etc. The main attraction was a "demonstration" of the delightful children's fairy play, "Red Riding Hood," given by the professional students of the Mayfair School of Dancing, and the first of the cycle of fairy plays to be staged by that school.

The episodes in the little red-hooded lady's adventures were followed with rapturous glee by the youthful audience. The tuition of the students, many of whom showed dramatic talent, by the principals (Miss Flora M. Fairbairn and Miss Noona Macquoid), calls for the warmest recognition. The ballets of the Butterflies, and the "Dance of the Fairies," in which M. Laurent Novikoff's corps de ballet appeared, were graceful in conception and execution. Miss Macquoid's numbers—may we single out for mention the melodious "Silver Bells of Fairyland"—were very pleasing, while Hope Caryll's "book" and Cyril Weller's orchestration must not be overlooked.

At the conclusion of "Red Riding Hood," the popular manager of the theatre (Mr. J. Norman Berlin), in a few well-chosen words, introduced the Mayor of Chelsea (Mr. Jefferson Hogg, O.B.E.) to the audience. His Worship, in the course of his remarks, thanked the directors and the staff of the theatre, especially Mr. Berlin, to whose herculean efforts so much of the success achieved was due. His Worship also informed the youngsters that the pretty and substantial box handed to each child, containing an apple, orange, bag of sweets and Bath bun, was a present from the Chelsea traders, who had made a subscription for the purpose.

NEW ACTS.

RAYNER AND ROY at Golders Green.

Unforced humour that is both clean and unhackneyed is the keynote of the new act of Rayner and Roy, who, in "Comedy a la Carte," are appearing at Golders Green Hippodrome this week. Dan Rayner is the character comedian of the twain, with a kind of Cornish-Lancashire accent and the sort of suit which would be worn by the knuts on Wigan Pier if that delightful health resort possessed one. His lanky accomplice's most outstanding attributes are a pleasing baritone voice, a dinner jacket and a monocle. He admirably renders a brief sentimental ballad, although its interest is somewhat diverted by his partner's game of "Put and Take" with a couple of stage hands, who seem to do all the "putting" while he monopolises the "taking." The entertaining cross-talk, which is a feature of this act, was invented by Mr. Rayner, who is no stranger to Golders Green, having visited the same theatre a few months ago as principal comedian in the successful equestrian revue, "The Circus Queen." His partner has lately been playing the juvenile lead in Joseph Haymen's popular revue, "Jack in the Box."

CORRINERE COOMBER.

At the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday, Corrinere Coomber, a charming comedienne, appeared in a new song-scena, in which she gives a spirited rendering of "She Was Cheery," descriptive of a dancer who was full of the joi de vivre, and came and went like a dream. Her next contribution was "Adam Never Had a Dear Old Mammy," in which her fine voice was heard to advantage, and the act was received with hearty applause.

Queenie Leighton appeared here as deputy for Harry Ford, and sang with great success "To-morrow Never Comes," and a coster lady recitation.

ELSIE CROSS.

A "turn" of undoubted merit was that presented by Miss Elsie Cross at Collins's Music Hall on Monday. Miss Cross is a clever impersonator of the male yokel, and her new act provides a happy medium for her talents. She has a style of her own, which is quite away from the beaten track, and her songs and concertina solos are excellently rendered, and were most favourably received.

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Next Week: KILBURN EMPIRE.

THE METROPOLITAN.

James Edison, the singing juggler, is here this week. He sings well "If They All Get Young Again," in addition to being an expert juggler, and his patter is very funny. Dorothy Darlington and Partner, in their unique violin and piano ensemble, both prove themselves capital musicians. The deputy appearing for Bilton and Max sings "The Roast Beef of Old England," "In a Hundred Years From Now," and tells some anecdotes. His dancing is a strong feature of his show. Herbert Betts and Fred Marsh and company have an excellent farcical absurdity in "A Bunch of Troubles." It is a burlesque that gives the two artists named ample opportunity for displaying their undoubted comedy talent.

John Luxton, the singing vagabond, and Charles Poley and Partner, in their whirlwind comedy act, are both attractive items that prove very popular. Beattie and George present a series of novelty dances. The former's skipping-rope dance was well received, and the duo's "tipsy" stunt gained well-merited applause. Carlish and Wellmon, singing and playing their own compositions, have a great reception. One does not know which to praise most, their compositions or their rendering of same. "I'm Looking for My Girl" and "If it Don't Concern You, Let it Alone," are their best numbers. There is also considerable humour in the act.

"JACK AND JILL" AT HACKNEY.

"Jack and Jill" at the Hackney Empire is notable for many excellent performances, and there are none better than the delightful representations of Jack and Jill by the Sisters Reeve, and the Simple Simon of Jack Shires. In this lively, up-to-date version of the story by Herbert Wellesley (who directs the pantomime), Lupino Lane and J. Walker, with the bright, melodious music by Frank L. Bainton, the modern Jill refuses in the first place to go up the hill to fetch a pail of water, and a clever story of a stolen will is interwoven in the customary legend, in which Little Miss Nobody figures largely. The scenes in the village of Rhymeland, the fairy glade, and the Royal Palace are grand spectacular efforts, and the conductor, Ernest Woodville, the principals, and chorus all do excellent work. An ideal pair of lovers are Mabel and Hester Reeve, charming alike in manner, appearance, and voice. They win all hearts with their cleverness and fascination, and they also possess a good fund of humour. Jack Shires as Simple Simon is brimful of drollery and resourceful fun. He keeps the audience laughing all the time. Ray Russell as Mother Hubbard scores in "Should a Woman Tell," and is amusing all through. The Tommy Tucker of Winnie St. Clair is an added attraction, and so is the Bopeep of Violet Manners. Mention should be made of Jack Shires and Martin Adeson in their clever skit on the police station shermozzle.

Old King Cole is drolly impersonated by Stephen Adeson, and in this scena as a member of the force, he is amusing in the extreme, whilst the Inspector of Jack Shires is splendid. As Robert the copper in Fairyland, Mr. Edward Law puts in some good work. Little Miss Nobody is played with remarkable precocity by little Olivette, and her "golliwog" dance is particularly good. Ida May as the Christmas Fairy is quite satisfactory, and sings "Joybells" nicely. Among the favourite numbers are "You're Everything That's Wonderful" (Jack and Jill), a very pretty number, "Your Eyes Have Told Me So," "The Roast Beef of Old England," sung by Mr. Martin Adeson. Mother Hubbard's ditty "Touch the Harp Gently, My Prett Louise," "Don't We Have Fun?" duo between Jack Shires and Olivette. Mr. Shires also shines in "Alabam," with its catchy chorus, and "I've Had a Good Time," with haunting chorus, is spiritedly sung by Mabel Reeve. "It's All Over Now" is capitally rendered by Hester Reeve and Jack Shires, and is succeeded by a neat dance.

"A FANTASY."

Revue, in Five Scenes, Produced by Tom Major at the Balham Hippodrome on Monday, Jan. 23.

Mr. Tom Major's new revue is best described by its title. Its five scenes represent different "Times"—Summer, Passing, Rehearsal, Any, and Winter are their respective titles. There is plenty of comedy in the show, for which Tom and Kitty Major are mainly responsible. Their duet, "Whose?" is well put over, and Kitty's song, "Who's She?" is a capital. Tom and Phyllis Welfare are another good duo. They open with "Borneo," and throughout give ableassistance in the comedy line. Tom Major and Tom Welfare's comedy interlude in the second scene causes plenty of amusement. Mr. Bert Thomas, a light comedian of merit, sings well "I'll Show You Where They Are" and "Dr. Briny." Miss Florence Eden makes a big hit with her song, "Oriental Moon," and scores in the "Linger Longer" duet with Mr. Welfare. The Four Ideals and the Rutland Quartette are seen to advantage in several terpsichorean efforts.

NEW SHOES FOR OLD.

Have you ever heard of "Au Carnaval"? It's neither a play nor a sweetmeat, but a place where the new art of re-covering shoes is brought to perfection. Do not discard those shabby shoes; they are old and worn but very comfortable; they can be neatly recovered in any material desired, and so made as good as new at very much less than the cost of a new pair, thus doing away with all the uncomfortable "breaking-in" and inconvenience that invariably accompanies a pair of new shoes. Send a pattern of the colour desired, and they are returned matched to any shade chosen.

The magician who carries out this useful and artistic work is "Au Carnaval," of 7 Lower Seymour-street, W.1. Shoes are recovered with untarnishable dull gold and silver tissue, or with a plain satin brocade or a beautiful tinsel brocade.

Ladies can supply their own material and this reduces the price to that of workmanship; but "Au Carnaval" will give sound and useful advice to any lady who would like to reproduce in her shoes the exact colour of the gown worn.

HONOUR FOR HANLEY MANAGER.

Mr. Albert Bulmer, manager of the Grand Theatre, Hanley, has been made a Life Governor of the North Staffordshire Infirmary in recognition of his remarkably successful efforts in raising money on its behalf. Two notable efforts initiated by him may be mentioned. In November, 1920, he raised £500 for the infirmary by a special Sunday evening concert at the Grand Theatre, and last November, by means of a similar concert, plus a mile-of-pennies scheme, no less than £1,400 was obtained. A "Grand Theatre Cot" was endowed in each year.

FILM TRADE SHOWS.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"LURE OF YOUTH."—Marks 9.

W. and F. (Control'ed) American five-reel drama, featuring Cleo Madison.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—An interesting psychological study of the love of a mature woman of the world for a village lad.
STORY.—Florentine Fair, a theatrical star, who, having "lived her life" in a gay Bohemian circle, had become blasé and weary, comes into contact with a young fellow who manages his father's chemist's store in a remote village, and the freshness and healthiness of the lad appeals to the jaded actress—the more so as he has an inkling for the theatre, being by way of an amateur dramatist. Florentine makes him her protegé, and also falls violently in love. Too late, she realises that her idol has feet of clay, success alone being his god, and she seeks solace with the "man about town" to whom she had shown scant courtesy during her infatuation.
ACTING.—Good throughout, a convincing and natural study of the actress and the youth being a noticeable feature.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—First-class.

"THE PLAYTHING OF BROADWAY."—Marks 9.

Realart Production. American five-reel drama, featuring Justine Johnstone and Cranfort, Kent.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—An interesting and human story of a demi-mondane's regeneration at the hands of her intended victim.
STORY.—Lola, a dancing girl who lives a life of luxury owing to being the "friend" of several financial magnates, accepts a challenge from a disgruntled admirer that he will name a man who will be proof against her charms. Lola sets to work immediately to bring this man to her feet, but the nobility of his nature quickly makes its appeal, and she ends by falling in love with him, and he with her. It is then that she realises her unworthiness to become his wife. Consequently she does the best she can to disgust him—poses as a drunken wanton, and for a time compels him to discard her. But love eventually brings him back; her self-sacrificing deception is discovered, and a future of honoured usefulness dawns for each.
ACTING.—The two principal rôles are excellently portrayed, the support being adequate.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—The interiors are of much magnificence, being strongly contrasted by exteriors taken in the heart of the slums.

"SPORT OF KINGS."—Marks 9½.

Granger (British) 5-reel Drama, featuring Phyllis Shannaw, Victor McLaglen, and Douglas Munroe.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Good sporting dramas are always welcome, and this production, with the effective and finely managed boxing and racing scenes, and its well-told story, admirably enacted in every part, should make a wide appeal.
STORY.—Deals with the love of Frank Rossdale for Elaine Winter, whose uncle and guardian, James Winter, in order to keep his grasp on her money, brings about an estrangement between the young couple. Frank takes his dismissal by Elaine very badly, and is on the road to ruin when a friend comes to his aid, and later rides Frank's horse to victory, his jockey having been injured by Winter. Villainy confounded, confesses; and, of course, the lovers are reunited.
ACTING.—Miss Phyllis Shannaw is a pretty and appealing Elaine Winter; Frank Rossdale has a manly and natural representative in Victor McLaglen; and Douglas Munroe as James Winter, and others in the cast, all do excellently.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—First-class.

"LIFE'S DARN FUNNY."—Marks 8½.

W. and F. (American) production, five reels, featuring Viola Dana.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—If the story of "Life's Darn Funny" is rather improbable, the film is on the whole very entertaining fare.
STORY.—When Zoe Robert, violinist, discovers that her artist neighbour, Clay Warwick, has a genius for costume-designing, they set up a dress-making establishment in the beautifully-appointed flat of a friend who has left them to look after her "treasures." They run up large bills, which they are unable to pay, and eventually the referred-to "treasures" are carted away by cruel brokers' men, and things look pretty black for Zoe and Clay. However, a benevolent and discriminating Russian prince turns up at this point, and decides that Clay is an artist of merit, that Zoe has the "divine spark" as a violinist, and that the best thing he can do is to leave them a 5,000-dollar cheque as a deposit.
ACTING.—As that somewhat unscrupulous young lady, Zoe, Viola Dana is very funny, but occasionally spoils her portrayal by being over vivacious; Gareth Hughes as Clay errs rather on the side of placidity. A landlady who "barks" when the rent is due, but whose soft Irish heart never allows her to "bite" is an amusing member of the cast.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—Very good, the close-ups being particularly fine.

"FOOTLIGHTS."—Marks 9.

Famous Lasky five-reel drama, featuring Elsie Ferguson.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Artistically produced story of the stage, with many effective and interesting scenes of theatrical life, well acted in every part.
STORY.—An ambitious New England village girl, Elizabeth Parsons, leaves home to seek fame on the stage. After much disappointment she is taken in hand by a theatrical magnate, and introduced as a well-known Russian actress—Lita Parsonova, and makes an instant success. Her manager falls in love with her, as does also a wealthy young man, to the latter of whom she hesitates to tell the truth. Finally the identity of Parsonova is discovered, and as simple Lizzie Parsons there is a prospect of happiness with her young lover.
ACTING.—The difficult character of Elizabeth Parsons is very cleverly and effectively handled by Miss Elsie Ferguson; Mr. Marc McDermott does excellent work as the theatrical magnate, the rich young lover is naturally portrayed by Mr. Reginald Denny; and other parts are all capably sustained.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—Exceptionally good.

"FIGHTING FOOL."—Marks 9.

Fox 5-reel comedy drama, featuring Tom Mix.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Capital story of adventure in California, with many thrills and some laughs, the scene on the ranch being first-class.
STORY.—Larry McBride, a dare-devil young cattle rancher, having saved the life of a wealthy girl, Alice Beaumont, is invited by her father to California. Larry has a rival in Rodney Curtis, and also makes another enemy, and there are many thrilling happenings ere he succeeds in winning Alice for his bride.
ACTING.—Tom Mix acts well throughout, and has many opportunities for indulging in daring horsemanship. Ora Carewe is a charming Alice, and other members of the cast all do excellently in a production which is bound to be popular.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—Very good.

"LYING LIPS."—Marks 9½.

Jury (American) Production. Six reels. Featuring House Peters and Florence Vidor.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—A brilliant picturisation of May Edington's story, dealt with in a remarkably convincing manner. The settings are most elaborate.
STORY.—Although engaged to a rich, elderly suitor, Nancy Abbott falls in love with Blair Cornwall while she is visiting Canada. She cannot bring herself to marry a poor man, however, and is returning to England to her fiancée, when the boat is wrecked by a stray mine. The passengers are taken away in the boats, leaving Nancy behind on the derelict with Blair, who has followed her from Canada. Thinking that death is near, they vow to become man and wife, but when rescuers appear, Nancy wants to forget her oath. However, when, on her return to England, she is on the point of marrying her former lover, remorse seizes her, and boarding the boat on which Blair is returning home, she convinces him that he and no one else, is the man she wishes to marry.
ACTING.—Florence Vidor admirably portrays the part of Nancy, and House Peters gives a powerful, manly, study of her Canadian lover. Indeed, the whole cast is excellent.
PHOTOGRAPHY.—Splendid, especially in the wreck scene.

"PUPPETS OF FATE."—Marks 9.

W. and F. (American) Production. Five reels. Featuring Viola Dana.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Well-handled dramatic story of Italian emigrants' troubles and trials, with plenty of varied settings.
STORY.—Sorrentina journeys from Italy to America to join her husband, Gabriel, only to find him mixed up with a gang of crooks, one of whom, "Babe Reynolds," he has been forced to "marry," his tale of already having a wife being disbelieved. In time Sorrentina makes a name on the stage, and "Babe" tires of Gabriel, and prosecutes him for bigamy. Then Sorrentina tries to clear him by saying she was not married to him, but matters are put right by a clear-sighted judge, who releases Gabriel, thus enabling Sorrentina to find happiness with her husband at last.
ACTING.—In the part of poor, little, fate-buffeted Sorrentina, Miss Viola Dana acts well and sympathetically. The supporting cast includes Francis MacDonald as Gabriel, and Jackie Saunders as "Babe."
PHOTOGRAPHY.—Excellent in all the differing scenes, from Italian village life to the New York underworld.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH.

At the annual meeting of the Eastern Counties branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, Mr. F. H. Cooper (Norwich) was re-elected chairman, Mr. E. H. Field (Great Yarmouth), treasurer; Mr. D. Benjamin (Norwich), vice-chairman; and the following were elected to the committee:—Messrs. E. V. Barr (Yarmouth), R. C. Littlebury (Norwich), R. G. Rogers (Ipswich), G. Starkey (Norwich), John Dixon (North Walsham), C. A. Sadler (King's Lynn), R. W. Saul, C. Troller, and S. C. Sullings. The office of the branch is Alexandra Mansions, Prince of Wales-road, Norwich, and Mr. William Waters is the secretary.

A message of sympathy has been sent from the members of the Leicester C.E.A. branch wishing their chairman (Mr. Trueman Towers), who is lying very ill at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, a speedy recovery to good health.

Mack Sennett's "Down on the Farm."

The important announcement that Mack Sennett has laid aside his short comedy work for a sensational five-reel comedy, comes from A. C. Berman, Allied Artists' Corporation, Ltd., who states that the new feature, entitled "Down on the Farm," will shortly be scheduled for release.

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GLEANINGS FROM FILMLAND.

Leicester Branch of C.E.A.

The members of the Leicester branch of the C.E.A. hope to be able to arrange a fancy dress carnival in aid of the Midland Trade Benevolent Fund. Already an effort has been made to try and get permission to open the cinemas on a Sunday for this good cause, but this was refused by the Watch Committee.

Clever Child Actor.

Little Norman Doxatt-Pratt has quite a big part in the latest Granger-Binger film, "Circus Jim," trade shown on January 24 at the West End Cinema. He is a clever child actor, and although only six years of age, he has had considerable screen experience.

"The Skin Game."

The Granger-Binger film version of John Galsworthy's stage success is to be shown to the public on January 30. This fine study of human nature was enacted by the entire Reandean Company, who delighted London audiences at the St. Martin's Theatre for nearly a year. Edmund Gwenn and Mary Clare play the principal rôles.

"The Man From Home."

An important asset to the star cast of "The Man From Home," the British Paramount picture, which is being directed by George Fitzmaurice, is Ellis Dagnall, who has been secured for the fine comedy part of the ancient dandy, Prince Giovanni Chiarmonte. Apart from his appearance in a long line of London stage successes, including "Caste," "Merely Mary Ann," "The Woman in the Case," "The Whip," "The Glad Eye," and "Are You a Mason?" Mr. Dagnall, as a stage manager, has produced over one hundred plays of all descriptions, been lessee and manager of many London theatres, and has written several successful farces and comedies. It was Ellis Dagnall who first introduced the Paris Grand Guignol Company to the London public, who brought over Suzanne Despres and Mme. Bartet in their dramatic successes, and Mlle. Tariol-Baugé and her company in comic opera. He was also instrumental in bringing the fine work of the Sicilian Players before the notice of the British public.

A Super-Super-Vampire.

Miss Mary Patterson, who is appearing in a series of new comedy films, says that in her latest she thinks she commits more crimes than any other film artist has ever done. "Really the film is a skit on the five-reel crook melodrama," says Miss Patterson. "When we were planning the film, we determined to make the leading woman a super-super-vampire. By the end of the film, Lola, the vamp., has caused no fewer than fifteen deaths. At the beginning of the film all the victims of Lola's vamping stand in her way to a title, so she just kills them. We thought of every kind of death scene that had been done on the screen, and turned it into comedy; then we found there were still one or two people of whom Lola had to dispose, so we pushed them altogether over the edge of a cliff." Jack Jarman, so long associated with British five-reel dramas, assists Mary Patterson in her wily ways in this new Milo film, whilst Bert Darley causes the sinister pair great restlessness by his sudden appearances as Holmlock Shears.

Homeward Bound.

Cecil M. Hepworth and Alma Taylor sailed from New York on the 17th on board the "George Washington," and are due to arrive in London early this week.

"Simple Simon."

The new Hepworth picture play, "Simple Simon," will be shown to the trade at eight simultaneous trade shows on February 9. "Simple Simon" is the latest Henry Edwards' picture, in which the popular actor-producer appears in the unusual rôle of a monk who goes out into the world from the seclusion of the cloisters. Chrissie White plays two parts, widely different. The story is an original one, specially written for the screen, and the picture play contains some very pretty scenes.

A Balzac Romance Filmed.

One of Balzac's most famous tales, "Le Père Goriot," has been adapted for Ideal Films, Ltd., and will be issued under the name of "Old Father Goriot." It gives an impressive study of an old man's devotion to his two spendthrift daughters. It will be interesting to watch its reception at the hands of the public.

Empire Theatre, Longton.

The Empire Theatre, Longton, which re-opened on Monday, Jan. 23, has "gone over" almost entirely to pictures. Varieties are still to be run, but they amount to only a couple of turns in a big film programme.

FILM INDUSTRY AND THE PRESS.

Sir William P. Jury presided over a goodly number of those interested in the film trade at a luncheon which he gave at the Trocadero Restaurant on the 17th inst. Referring to the troublesome times the industry had gone through, Sir William remarked: Nasty things had been said about the trade by a certain section of the Press, and he asked if they were justified. (Loud cries of "No.") The cinema industry being a commercial proposition, the educational authorities should allow them to run their own business. Chas. Urban spent thousands of pounds trying to create success with educational films. There was not one connected with the cinema to-day, proprietors and managers, but who wanted to do the right thing, and when he had appealed to them to help the State they had always done so. He was not pessimistic, he said, but optimistic.

Sir William made a strong appeal to the Press not to do the trade harm. A great good could be done by them, and they had done a great deal. The English producer, he said, was going right ahead, but unless he had the support of the Press he could not go very far. He asked them to give the trade a lift, and not to decry it. They were threatened in July next that no child under sixteen should be allowed in a cinema unless accompanied by a guardian. That point, he said, would be duly dealt with in March. With regard to the bad year they had had, he said the hot summer had been top of the bill in the entertainment industry, and that strikes and trade depression had sapped its vitality. The State had, however, collected large revenue from the theatres, which had seriously affected them.

ENTERTAINMENT FINANCE.

TAXATION THROTTLING TRADE. STOLL NEW VENTURE.

On every hand one hears the same cry, that the entertainment tax is throttling theatrical trade, slowly killing the music-hall business, and cutting into the picture industry in a way that seems likely to bleed the cinema to death. Whether these pathetic cries will melt the hard heart of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is a moot point, but, having regard to his recent pronouncement on the chances of a reduced income-tax, it is more than probable that the chorus of complaint will fall upon deaf ears. There is not the slightest doubt, however, that if the tax is persisted in the recreation provided for the public by amusement enterprises will have to be very considerably curtailed. The effect of the tax is to drive the middle classes, who are really the mainstay of the entertainment industries, to economise in the matter of payment for their pleasures. The upper-circle set decide to stand in a queue and patronise the pit, while the pittites migrate to the gallery, and the unfair part of it is that in most instances this means little or no reduction in the tax returns of the houses concerned, owing to the unfair incidence of the dues.

There is nothing that will provoke the Englishman to wrath quicker than a sense of injustice, and unless some concession is made, if not in the matter of amount, at least in the direction of fair imposition of the tax, there will be trouble in store for the powers that be when the elusive election takes place. Already it is announced that some seven or eight variety theatres in London and its environs will be closed for the summer, and when it is considered that this means a much bigger closure of houses in the provinces, the terrific amount of unemployment that will be created can be realised. Does not this effect in itself prove that the tax is both politically and economically unsound? I certainly give my vote for a drastic revision of the tax and, if possible, its abolition.

Glasgow Alhambra.

Like some of the London variety theatres, the Glasgow Alhambra has had rather a lean year, which has been rendered worse by the increased pressure of State taxation. The accounts, which are made up to the end of November last, show a gross profit of £24,900, which compares with £41,600 for the previous period. General expenses and depreciation are, however, reduced from £9,600 to £7,100, but, on the other hand, taxation, including the corporation tax has risen from £4,800 to £8,200. Under the adverse circumstances, it is satisfactory that the company is still able to distribute 10 per cent. on its ordinary shares, which compares with 12½ per cent. for the earlier year, while the balance carried forward, amounting to £9,000, is only £1,400 less than the sum brought into the accounts. Considering the difficulties of the year, the company may be said to have made quite a good showing.

Stoll's Liverpool Cinema.

Despite the unpropitious outlook for amusement ventures generally, Sir Oswald Stoll has decided to take another step forward in the direction of decreasing America's lead in the film industry. Encouraged by the success of the Stoll Picture House (Kingsway), he is launching out in Liverpool. A new company, called the Stoll Piture Theatre (Liverpool) has been formed, the prospectus of which was issued on Saturday last, subscriptions commencing on Monday. The public issue consists of £377,650 Ordinary £1 shares and £175,000 Debenture stock, which will bear interest at 7½ per cent., being offered at 85 per cent. According to Sir Oswald's estimate, the new theatre, which will seat 3,000 people, and comprises a restaurant and winter gardens, will probably earn some £74,000 per annum, which, after allowing for debenture interest, &c., will give about £60,000 for distribution amongst the Ordinary shareholders. If this estimate is approximately correct the venture is a very attractive one for investors. By a novel arrangement those who subscribe £200 or more will be entitled to receive 6½ per cent. on their money until the building is complete and revenue is being earned, when the sums, which will be in the form of convertible notes, will be exchanged for Ordinary shares to the same amount. Obviously Sir Oswald is closing his eyes to the present and is looking ahead with vision, to the time when our present troubles will have been to some extent overcome, for it will probably be about two years before the provincial enterprise will be in an earning position. I wish him every success which his outstanding genius in the profitable provision of public entertainment seems to promise.

NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED.

NEW SCALA THEATRE, LTD.—Registered Jan. 19. New Scala Theatre, Charlotte-street, W.1. To carry on the business of theatre proprietors and managers. Capital, £5,000, in 5,000 shares of £1 each. Directors: E. Wertheimer, 2, Redington-gardens, Hampstead, N.W. (Gov. Dir.).

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE (LIVERPOOL), LTD.—(179045.) Registered Jan. 14, 1922. Stoll Offices, Coliseum Buildings, W.C.2. To purchase the land and buildings situate in St. John's-lane and Queen-square, Liverpool. To construct cinema theatres, and to carry on the business of cinema theatres, theatre and music hall proprietors and managers. Capital, £380,000, in 379,900 ordinary shares of £1 each and 100 management shares of £1 each. Minimum Subscription: 7 ordinary shares. Directors: Sir Oswald Stoll, Carlton House, Putney-hill, Putney, S.W. (Chairman and Managing Director); Sir J. W. McCraith, J.P., The Park, Nottingham; H. J. Thomas, 130, Bute-street, Cardiff; B. W. Broad, The Sanatorium, Cardiff; R. S. Johnson, Carlton, Grosby, near Liverpool; W. S. G. Richie, Roselawns, Monaham-avenue, Purley; H. E. Davis, Newlands Gravesend; J. Bernard, 20, Rotherwick-road, Golder's Green, N.W.; L. Johns, 47, Stanhope-road, Streatham S.W.

The Vaudeville Club is giving a performance of "Secret Service" at the King's Hall Theatre, Covent Garden, at 7.30 to-morrow (Thursday), and will repeat the play the following Thursday at the Cripplegate Theatre, for the benefit of the Cripplegate Institute.

Congratulations to our Belfast correspondent (Mr. R. S. Osborne), whose wife presented him with a fine boy on Saturday last. Mrs. Osborne (Miss Madge Shaw) is well known in the profession, having been some years with Mr. Towyn Thomas's Royal Welsh Choir.

RACING TOPICS.

LINCOLNSHIRE AND NATIONAL WEIGHTS.

Good Sport Ahead.

The coming Calendar will be looked forward to with avidity, as on Thursday next we shall have the weights for the Lincolnshire and Grand National before us. Their advent always livens interest all round, and will give the searchers for early doubles something tangible to work on. Not that we believe in these early-bird ideas. There is a deal to think of beyond the fact that one's particular fancy is in at a weight that pleases. So many that look well in on paper fail to stand the required work in the necessarily trying going, and crack up when it comes to seriously setting about the business. Moreover, strange as it may seem, those who wait patiently until their horse has come through the training ordeal with credit frequently get a better price for their choice than the early ones in the market. It was so with Sosanus last year, although perhaps his case is hardly a fair example; but with Furious in 1920 there was no question of infirmity, and his 33 to 1 at the start was owing to the quidnuncs concluding him to be outclassed, and to the heavy flow of money for some of his opponents hailing from the heavy betting stables.

In the main, those who wait patiently until it is certain their choice will, at least, see the post have the advantage. Already many of the early operators have been stung by the downfall of Always, who carried their hopes for National honours, and from all we can gather, those who have pinned their faith on Leighton for the Lincolnshire are in equally bad case, although in this instance there is hope of an early retriever.

We will run over the weights next week with a view to thinning out the likelies in each handicap; but when that is done there is nothing to prevent us from waiting for further developments over the next month.

The racing last week was of mixed quality. Derby went by the board altogether, owing to adverse weather conditions, while the sport at Newbury was considerably affected. Plumpton is only a little fixture in any case, and with the going heavy to the last degree, several much-expected candidates were quite unable to do themselves justice.

This week again is a broken one, as, after Leicester, we have to wait until Kempton Park to get at the real thing again. Tenby being very small beer when talking about quality. At Kempton, however, we should see some of the best of them out, and those who can make the visit will be well repaid in doing so.

Hints for the Week.

The following are all fit to do themselves justice, whether they win or lose:

To-day, at Tenby, the Ruislip Steeplechase may find SUPERMAN and Pencoed in opposition, and it should be a close duel between them. We like them in the order given.

TOP HOLE is due to run at the meeting, and must be followed for whichever event he contests. He is in on both days.

The Beauchamp Challenge Cup should surely fall to the selected of D. Harrison, who has no less than seven in the entry. Our advices are that JOSEPH THE FIRST will prove the best of those. Hasso has come on since running third to Little Milford and Divinity at Newbury, and may be a great danger.

On the second day, Pencoed and Top Hole are opposed in both the Llwynarthan Steeplechase, and the Deer Park Three-Mile Chase. We take TOP HOLE for the former race, and PENCOED over the longer distance.

On Friday, Kempton comes in with a fine programme. SENHORA should be followed for the Kempton Park Hurdle, but she will have to put in her best work to cope with Front Line and Double Bed.

The Middlesex Hurdle has a capital entry, and several have been highly tried, and are much expected. One of these is THE WINTER KING, and with F. Hartigan's stable now in form, we shall trust him to lift the prize.

On Saturday a good field should turn out for the principal event, the Cranford Handicap Steeplechase, but while holding such as Blazing Corn, St. Bernard, and Square Up in every respect, we shall give a confident vote to that smashing good horse, SILVER RING. He is now at his best, and well up to weight.

NAREESH showed at Plumpton that he is now quite at his best, and we regard the Fulwell Selling Hurdle Race as an easy task for him. REGENT'S PARK should be followed for the Egham Four-Year-Old Hurdle Handicap. He is likely to take high rank over the sticks.

At Nottingham on Monday the Newark Selling Handicap Steeplechase will be won by PRESTISSIMA, now quite at her best, and the penalty gained at Plumpton not being sufficient to bar her success. CRAGANOCK holds a sound winning chance for the Mansfield Handicap Steeplechase.

On Tuesday, the Nottinghamshire Handicap Steeplechase lies between Garryvoe, All White, and Woolcraft, and with his pull in the weights, WOOLCRAFT should be sound business.

The 100th performance of "The Sleeping Princess" will take place at the Alhambra this (Wednesday) evening, when the programme will be exactly the same as on the first night. Madame Spessiva will take the part of the Princess Aurora, and Madame Lopokova that of the Lilac Fairy.

Mr. Frank Wyatt, junr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wyatt (Miss Violet Melnotte), the proprietors of the Duke of York's Theatre, has been presented by his wife, Muriel (née Lemon), with a big bouncing boy. Both are doing well.

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ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

AFGAR.—Jan. 23, New, Northampton.
AFGAR (BLUE).—Jan. 23, Reading; 30, Aldershot.
ALADDIN (ARNOLD.)—Jan. 30, H.M., Carlisle.
ALADDIN (BISHOP).—Jan. 23, Met., Manchester.
ALADDIN (CLEMENTS).—Jan. 23, Hippo., Bolton.
ALADDIN (COLLINS).—Jan. 30, Pavilion, Glasgow.
ALADDIN (COLLINS).—Jan. 30, Hippo., Hamilton.
* ALADDIN (DICK RAY).—Jan. 23, Palace, East Ham.
ALADDIN (JAMES).—Jan. 25. Temp. Hall, Merthyr.
* ALADDIN (JAZON AND MONTGOMERY).—Jan. 23, Hip., Salford.
ALADDIN (MORGAN).—Jan. 23, T.R., Crook.
* ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE.—Jan. 23, Hip., Selby.
* ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES.—Jan. 23, Hippo., Dover; 30, Hippo., Eastbourne.
* ALLINGTON CHARSLEY OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Hip., Stockton; 30, Hip., Stockton.
* ARCADIANS, THE (NORTH).—Jan. 23, O.H., Harrogate; 30, Court, Liverpool.
* ARCADIANS.—Jan. 30, Emp., Peterborough.
* ARMITAGE & LEIGH REP. CO.—Jan. 30, O.H., Scarborough.
BABES IN THE WOOD (FULLER).—Jan. 23, H.M. Carlisle.
BABES IN THE WOOD (MEARS).—Jan 23, Hippodrome, Bilston; Jan. 30, Alh., Stourbridge.
* BABES IN THE WOOD (VENTOM SWIFT).—Jan. 23, New, Bargoed; 30, Surrey T., S.E.
BABES IN THE WOOD (VERNON).—Jan. 23, O.H., Dudley.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (BERT GRAPHO).—Jan. 23, T.R., Macclesfield; 30, Queen's, Leeds.
* BELLE OF NEW YORK.—Jan. 30, Wimbledon Theatre.
BENTLEY'S CO. (FREDERICK).—Jan. 23, Hip., Belfast; 30, Hip., Dublin.
* BETTY (MACDONALD AND YOUNG). Jan. 23, T.R., Worcester; 30, New, Crewe.
BEYOND THE VEIL.—Jan. 23, T.R., Loughborough.
* BLUE LAGOON (T. C. WRAY).—Jan. 23, Northampton; Jan. 30, Castleford.
* BO-PEEP (CARLTON FREDERICKS).—Jan. 30, Palace, Frome (3), Palace, Chippenham (3).
* BROWN SUGAR (LION, WALLS AND HENSON).—Jan. 23, Empire, Kingston; 30, Hippo. Richmond.
* BULL-DOG DRUMMOND. — Jan. 23, Grand, Swansea; 30, Lyceum, Newport (Mon.).
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Aberdeen; 30, Aberdeen.
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Sheffield; 30, Ashton.
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Bolton; 30, South Shields.
* CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Colwyn Bay; 30, Colwyn Bay.
* CHARM SCHOOL (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 30, T.R., South Shields.
* CINDERELLA (CARLTON FREDERICKS).—Jan. 23, Palace, Chepstow (3), P.H., Lydney (3).
* CINDERELLA (CLEMENTS).—Jan. 23, T.R., Aston.
CINDERELLA (FRANKS). — Jan. 23, Emp., West Hartlepool.
CINDERELLA (HART & HARRIS). — Jan. 23, Hippo., Chesterfield.
* CINDERELLA (RUSSELL).—Jan. 23, Palace, Carlisle.
* DADDY LONG-LEGS (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 23, Royalty, Barrow; 30, Grand, Nelson.
DEANE (HAMILTON) CO.—Jan. 23, South Parade Pier, Southsea; 30, South Parade Pier, Southsea.
* DENVILLE REP. CO. (ALFRED).—Jan. 23 and 30, Arcadia, Colwyn Bay.
* DICK WHITTINGTON (CROMO).—Jan. 23, Hip., Norwich; 30, Hip., Ipswich.
* DICK WHITTINGTON (JAZON AND MONTGOMERY).—Jan. 23, Hip., Preston.
DICK WHITTINGTON (KIMBERLEY).—Jan. 23, Emp., West Bromwich.
DICK WHITTINGTON (LEON).—Jan. 23, Pavilion, Ayr.
DICK WHITTINGTON (SALBERG).—Jan. 23, Hip., Birkenhead.
DICK WHITTINGTON (WARBURTON AND WELLESLEY).—Jan. 23, Palace, Salford.
* DOBELL (W. L.).—Jan. 23, Oxmorton Hall, Birr (3). Temperance Hall, Roscrea (3); 30, Town Hall, Nenagh.
* DOLLAR PRINCESS, THE.—Jan. 23, T.R., Blackburn; 30, T.R., Rochdale.
DORAN (CHARLES) SHAKESPEAREAN CO.—Jan. 30, T.R., Windsor.
* D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Court, Warrington; 30, Court, Wigan.
FAIR AND WARMER (WYN WEAVER). Jan. 23, O.H., Scarborough; 30, T.R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.
FOLLIES, THE.—Jan. 30, West Pier, Brighton.
* GABRIELLE.—Jan. 23, Lyceum, Edinburgh; 30, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
* GIPSY PRINCESS (IMESON).—Jan. 23, T.R., Bournemouth; 30, County, Reading.
* GIPSY PRINCESS (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 23, T.R., Lincoln; 30, T.R., Stockport.
* GIPSY PRINCESS, THE.—Jan. 23, Court, Liverpool; 30, T.R., Brighton.
GOLDEN MOTH, THE.—Jan. 23, King's, Glasgow; 30, King's, Glasgow.
GOODY-TWO-SHOES (CLARENCE). — Jan. 23 T.R., Castleford; 30, Met., Bootle.
* HILL - MITCHELSON (E.) REPERTORY CO.—Jan. 23 and 30, T.R., Leicester.
* HUNKY DORY.—Jan. 23, Hip., Greenock; 30, O.H., Dunfermline.
* IN NELSON'S DAYS.—Jan. 23, T.R., York; 30, P.O.W., Birmingham.
* IRENE (MACDONALD & YOUNG'S SOUTH CO.).—Jan. 23, Perth T., Perth; 30, King's, Greenock.
* IRENE (MACDONALD & YOUNG'S NORTH CO.).—Jan. 23, T.R., Dewsbury; 30, T.R., Blackburn.
* JACK AND JILL (FIRTH).—Jan. 23, Palace, Rushden.
JACK AND JILL (HENRY LEES).—Jan. 23, T.R., Stockport; 30, Hip., Leigh.
* KIKI.—Jan. 23, Hip., Southampton.
* KNAVE OF DIAMONDS (VIOLET VANBRUGH).—Jan. 23, T.R., Brighton; 30, T.R., Portsmouth.
* KNAVE OF DIAMONDS. — Jan. 23, County Reading; 30, T.R., Bournemouth.
* LADY OF THE ROSE.—Jan. 23, Prince's, Manchester; 30, Prince's, Manchester.
* LAWRENCE (LEONARD) REP. CO.—Jan. 23, Hip., Selby.
* LITTLE BO-PEEP (CARLTON FREDERICKS).—Jan. 23. Palace, Yeovil (3), Palace, Trowbridge (3).
* LITTLE BO-PEEP (KIDDIE).—Jan. 23, Hippo., Derby.
LITTLE BO-PEEP (WAYNE).— Jan. 23, Walthamstow.
* LITTLE DUTCH GIRL (HUTCHISON).—Jan. 23, Hip., Keighley; 30, Grand, Oldham.
LITTLE GOODY TWO-SHOES.—Jan. 23, Hip., Ellesmere Port.
LITTLE MISS MUFFET (HENRY LEES).—Jan. 23, Alhambra, Barnsley; 30, Court, Warrington.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD (CAMPBELL).—Jan. 23, Emp., Burnley.
LOVE MATCH, THE.—Jan. 30, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
* MAID OF THE MOUNTAINS (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 23, T.R., Merthyr; 30, Lyceum, Taunton.
* MARY (BUTT).—Jan. 23, P.O.W., Birmingham; 30, Lyceum, Sheffield.
* MARY (MACDONALD AND YOUNG). —Jan. 23, T.R., Bury; 30, T.R., York.
MOTHER GOOSE (FRED COLLINS).—Jan. 23, Hip., Leigh, Lancs.; 30, Palace, Bordesley.
* MOTHER GOOSE (VENTOM SWIFT). —Jan. 23 Empire, Dewsbury
* MOTHER GOOSE (VENTOM SWIFT). —Surrey Theatre (Resident).
MOTHER GOOSE (WAGNER).—Jan. 23, Crown T., Eccles; 30, T.R., Barnsley.
* NAUGHTY WIFE (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 23, Grand T., Lancaster; 30, T.R., Darlington.
* NIGHT OUT, A (T. C. WRAY).—Jan. 23, Falkirk; 30, Perth T., Perth
* NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan 23, Hippodrome, Rugby; 30, Palace, Newark.
OLE KING COLE (HENRY LEES).—Jan. 23, Hippo., Hamilton; 30, Theatre, Paisley.
* O'MARA OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, Liverpool.
* PADDY THE NEXT BEST THING (RED).—Jan. 23, King's, Greenock; 30, Grand, Falkirk.
* PEG O' MY HEART (MACDONALD AND YOUNG).—Jan. 23, O.H., Cheltenham; 30, Palace, Gloucester.
* PERI, THE SLAVE OF LOVE.—Jan. 23, King's, Dundee.
* PETER PAN.—Jan. 23, T.R., Peterborough.
PRIEST AND THE WOMAN.—Jan. 23, T.R., Yarmouth.
* PUNCH AND JUDY.—Jan. 23, Hip., Boscombe.
RED RIDING HOOD (BYRNE).—Jan. 23, Pal., Halifax; 30, Hippo., Huddersfield.
RED RIDING HOOD (CAMPBELL).—Jan. 23, Palace, Tottenham.
RED LAMP, THE.—Jan. 23, O.H., Blackpool.
RIDDING OPERA CO.—Jan. 23, T.H., Elgin.
ROBINSON CRUSOE (FORDE).—Jan. 23, Emp., Edinburgh.
* ROBINSON CRUSOE (JAZON AND MONTGOMERY).—Jan. 23, King's, Manchester.
* ROMANCE.—Jan. 23, P.T., Goucester; 30, Empire, Swindon.
ROSE OF ARABY.—Jan. 30, Empire, Penge.
* ROYAL DIVORCE, A.—Jan. 23, Col., Ilkeston; 30, Grand, Blackpool.
* SAFETY MATCH, A (COURTNEIDGE).—Jan. 23, Alex., Hull; 30, Royalty, Chester.
* SALLY (GROSSMITH AND MALONE). —Jan. 23, O.H., Middlesbrough; 30, T.R., Bolton.
SAVAGE AND THE WOMAN.—Jan. 23, Empire, Penge.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Jan. 23, T.R., Pontypool; 30, T.R., Barry.
* SILVER KING.—Jan. 30, Canterbury and Ashford.
* SINBAD THE SAILOR (CARLTON FREDERICKS). — Jan. 30, Palace, Bridgwater (3), T.R., Barnstaple (3).
SINBAD THE SAILOR (LE CREN). — Jan. 30, Palace, Carlisle.
* SKIN GAME, THE.—Jan. 30, New T.R., Worcester.
SLEEPING PARTNERS.—Jan. 23, Empire, Preston.
* SYBIL.—Jan. 23, Court, Wigan; 30, O.H., Southport.
TOM, TOM, THE PIPER'S SON.—Jan. 23, O.H., Manchester.
* TRUMP CARD, THE.—Jan. 23, West Pier, Brighton.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Jan. 23, Lyceum, Ipswich.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Jan. 30, Empire, Edmonton.
* WEEK-END, A. (W. W. ELLIS NO. 1 CO.).—Jan. 23, Playhouse, Cardiff; 30, Hip., Balham.
* WRONG NUMBER.—Jan. 23, P.G.T., Folkestone; 30, T.R., Chatham.

REVUES.

BARE BACKS.—Jan 23, Hippo., Nottingham.
* BEHIND THE SCENES.—Jan. 23, Hippo., Norwich.
COME ON, STEVE.—Jan. 23, Hippo., Leeds.
* DREAM GIRL, THE.—Jan. 23, O.H., Coventry.
EYE-OPENER.—Jan. 23, Empire, Bristol.
FANTASY, A.—Jan. 23, Hippo., Balham.
FOOTLIGHT FROLICS.—Jan. 23, T.R., South Shields.
GAY OSTEND.—Jan. 23, Queen's, Poplar.
GOAL.—Jan. 23, Hip., Bury; 30, Hip., Bolton.
HELLO, BLACKPOOL!—Jan. 23, Empire, Burnley.
KNUT-SHELL NOTIONS. — Jan. 23, Palace, Ramsgate.
TINGLES.—Jan. 23, Hip., Lewisham.
LIZZIE.—Jan. 23, Woolwich.
LONDON TO BAGHDAD. — Jan. 23, King's, Southsea; 30, Emp., Chiswick.
LUCKY LIZA.—Jan. 23, Hippo., Bilston; 30, Hippo., Cannock.
* ME AND MY GAL.—Jan. 23, Hip., Woolwich.
MR. TOWER OF LONDON.—Jan. 23, Walsall; 30, Barrow.
OH, HARRY!—Jan. 23, G., Brighton.
OH, I!—Jan. 23, Queen's, Castleford; 30, Pall., Llandudno.
OH, JACK!—Jan. 23, T.R., Coatbridge.
OH, LAUGH!—Jan. 23, Hip., Aldershot.
PEDLAR'S PIE.—Jan. 23, Pavilion, Torquay.
* PINS AND NEEDLES.—Jan. 23, Grand, Blackpool; 30, King's, Dundee.
REEL FUN.—Jan. 23, Elephant and Castle, S.E.
ROCKETS.—Jan. 23, Empire, Glasgow.
ROSE-PETALS.—Jan. 30, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.
ROUNDABOUT, THE.—Jan. 30, Palace, Salisbury.
* SAMMY IN SOCIETY.—Jan. 23, Hip., Ashton-under-Lyne.
* SCRAP-BOOK, THE.—Jan. 23, Hip., Brighton.
SHIP AHOY!—Jan. 23, T.R., West Bromwich.
SPANGLES.—Jan. 23, Empire, Leeds.
SPARKLETS.—Jan. 23, Hip., Southend.
SPLASH ME.—Jan. 30, Hippo., Norwich.
TAKE A REST.—Jan. 30, Pav., Ayr.
THERE YOU ARE, THEN.—Jan. 23, Pav Leicester.
WHAT A LIFE!—Jan. 23, T.R., Castleford; 30, Metropole, Bootle.
* WHIRLIGIG, THE (No. 1).—Jan. 23 Grand, Bolton.
* ZIG-ZAG.—Jan. 23, Palladium, Llandudno.
* 1922 REVUE.—Jan. 23, Emp., Finsbury Park.

*** Members of the Association of Touring Managers.**

Mr. P. M. Evans, late manager, Theatre Royal, Aldershot, has been appointed manager of the Palace Theatre, Salisbury, succeeding Mr. F. Benton, who has returned to Jersey.

Miss Edna Carr has been playing the part of the Princess in "Aladdin" at the Wimbledon Theatre for the past week owing to the indisposition of Miss Gwen Price.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

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Hudson, Miss O
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Humfrys, Mr. H.
Hunter, Mr. R. G.
Hunter, Mr. G. W.
Huntley, Mr. W.
Hurley, Mr. W. L.
Iona, Mr. A. F.
Irwin, Miss Dorothy Elsie
Jennings, Miss L.
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Lundy, Mr. H.
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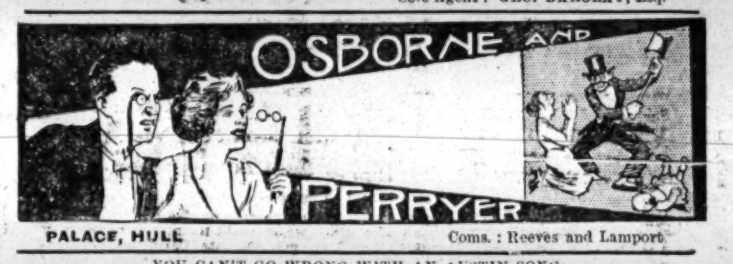

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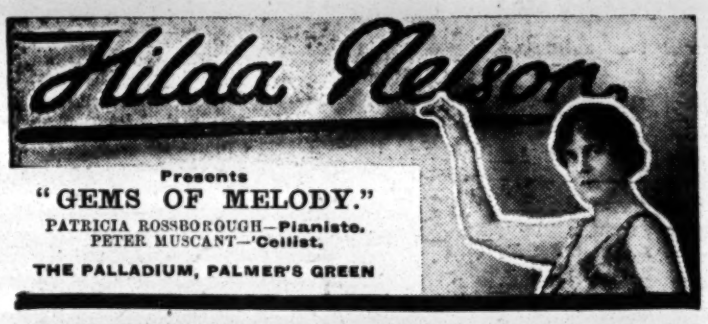

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Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
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Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
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14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except the London Coliseum, which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required.)

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artists three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artists.

ARTISTS' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed, or they cannot be brought into the Theatre This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Sir Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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C. B. Cochran presents
"Fun of the Fayre."

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METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Sam Mayo. Carlton.
Hayman and Franklin. Zona and Hilroy.
Norman Carrol. Emilie Hayes.
Billy Housini. Carvet and Verena.

CHELSEA PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12
Charles Steuart presents
"Be Careful Baby."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Abbie Mitchell and Quartette.
Con Ingham and Co. in Sketch,
"Misery O.K."
Howard Rogers. Lottie Lennox.
Edis and Forbes. James Edison, etc.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Lew Lake presents
Les Rouges et Noirs in "Splinters of 1922."

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Fred Karno presents
"Mumming Birds."
Lune and Shaw. Gerbola Trio.
Hobart and Hobbs. Gilbert and Chapman.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Alexander Productions present
"The Woman Intervenes."
Femina Quartette. Paris Trio.
Dale and Williams. Hal Bryan.
Daisy Leon. Morrey Sisters,
Cecil and Ian Law.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bert Hughes and Co.
Norton and Simmonds.
Charles Poley and Partner.
Rich and Galvin. Martin and Castle.
Ilka and Lentone. O'Brien and Lady.
The Megan Bros.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12
Betts and Marsh in "Troubles."
Olga Morselli. Helen Frederic and Co
The Two Meurs. Okayama Troupe.
The Five Macleods, etc.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Variety Company as Booked.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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(I'd Love to Fall Asleep and Wake Up in my Mammy's Arms).

DOWN THE TRAIL

(To Home Sweet Home).

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It Will Never Let You Down.

B. FELDMAN & CO.

FOOTLIGHT FACTS.

Seven Striking Successes.

Shepherd's Bush Empire last week, and Chiswick Empire this week, have sampled Lupino Lane and J. Walker's "Jack and Jill," and voted it a first-class show. The musical numbers include no less than seven Feldman songs.

Jack Shires features the bustling "Going Home," and makes it go all the way. Bay Russell is happy (and his audience also) in "Touch the Harp Gently." "Ain't We Got Fun?" is "duetted" by Jack Shires and Olivette, and compel a delighted affirmative to their question.

In "I've Had a Good Time of the Girls," Mabel Reeve displays that artistry for which she is famed, and in the duet, "Your Eyes Have Told Me," the Sisters Reeve (Mabel and Hester) provide one of the really big things in pantomime this season.

Concerted numbers are "The Best Little World" and "Bells and Blue Ribbon," and here again excellence is the keynote. Altogether a delightful entertainment.

The M. D. KNOWS!

We looked in at Hammersmith Palace last week and found Feldmanism being demonstrated by the capable orchestra there, under the artistic direction of Henry W. May. "Margie" was in particular evidence, and so also was "Premierland" selection. The performers on the attractive programme included Eva Stella and Tucker, who also make a feature of Feldmanism in their own charming way.

Again!

Again, Wylie and Tate! At Newcastle Hippodrome Daisy Wood (p. b.) works "Ain't We Got Fun" with excellent results, and, in conjunction with Jean Allistone (p. g.) makes a delightfully interesting feature of "Linger a Little Longer."

[*Photo by Bacon and Sons.*
DAISY WOOD.

Kitty Wants the Best.

"The best, and nothing but the best," would seem to be the motto of Kitty Scott, who wants "Mammy's Arms" to feature in Frank E. Frank's "Take a Rest" revue, wherein Miss Scott is leading lady.

All Going Strong.

Seymour Burns (musical director), who writes on behalf of Eva Rosslyn and Rene Franke, tells us these clever performers wish us to know that all the Feldman numbers worked by them are going strong. Mr. Burns adds on his own behalf that "Premierland" is an immense draw everywhere.

Jimmy's Got the Goods!

Jimmy Basso writes delightedly about "Touch the Harp Gently" and "It's a Bit of a Ruin that Cromwell Knocked About a Bit." "What Dame Numbers!" says Jimmy. Yes, they are the real goods.

Speaks for Itself.

This letter bears the Lancaster postmark under date January 14:—

Some ardent theatre-goers wish to tell you that your duet, "Linger a Little Longer," as rendered last week at the Grand Theatre, Lancaster, in the revue, "More Splashes" (Frivolities), by Mavis Graham, with Will Seller at the piano, proved one of the greatest successes we have known at this theatre. For the closing performance on the Saturday they tried the experiment of having the patter chorus sung from one of the boxes, which proved very effective. "House Full" was the rule at each of the twelve performances. We congratulate you on publishing this fine number.

Two Footlighters.

"Thinks It May Interest Us."

Coral Cane thinks it may interest us to know that "Mammy's Arms" and "I Want a Good Boy," both of which numbers this popular performer featured at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, received high praise from the local press. It does more than interest us; it delights us to know that capable Feldmanists like our friend are reaping the reward they deserve.

FOOTLIGHT FACTS.

Harry's Hefty Hit.

At Middlesbrough, Harry Arthurs tells us he sang "Italian Skies" to most appreciative audiences. "It is a fine song," he says, "and suits me down to the ground."

"Margie" Again!

Rita Dilston makes an outstanding hit in "Margie," which number she handles in captivating style in Henry Lee's "Little Miss Muffet" on tour. Norman Clark is the capable musical director of this show.

"With Enormous Success."

Says Mollie Wood, "I have been working your 'Mammy's Arms' song with enormous success." Private reports state that the song receives sympathetic treatment from Miss Wood, and that her success is entirely deserved. All of which we are delighted to hear.

New and Good.

Syd Moorhouse has fallen in love with the new ballad, "That's How I Believe in You," which he has tried and found a pleasure to himself and a delight to his audience.

Wylie and Tate.

This firm's beautiful "Aladdin" production at the Olympia, Liverpool, has Elsie Prince (p. b.) making a delightful study of "Mammy's Arms" song, while Annie Croft (p. g.) contributes the immensely favoured "Crooning." The principal boy is all sparkle and go in "Ain't We Got Fun."

Rene's Report.

René Ralph sends a charming message breathing happy thoughts for 1922, and including appreciative comment on "Ain't

RENE RALPH.

We Got Fun?" and "Linger a Little Longer," both of which are going strong in the panto. at Hanley, where Miss Ralph plays the principal part.

Wants "Bantry Bay."

Mary Edison, principal boy, King's Theatre, Edinburgh, wants to introduce "Bantry Bay," which song she has tried and found good value. Miss Edison shares honours in the duet, "Linger a Little Longer," with Gabrielle Ray, whose "Crinoline" song is also a feature of the King's musical entertainment.

Big Winner.

George E. Green (Roberts and Green) says "Ta Ta" is a great success. And the same performers are just now plucking other plums from the tree of Feldmanism, which *really* provides "rare and refreshing fruit."

"Three of the Best."

This is what Alec Mortimer says in reference to "Mammy's Arms," "Margie," and "Jean." Alec is adding "Down Yonder" and "Ain't We Got Fun," which will mean five of the best in his repertoire.

The Golda-Penville Quartette.

From Carmen Hilliard we learn that this famous combination are doing no less than four Feldman songs, and each one a big success. The selected four are "Smilin' Through," "Mother of Pearl," "Carissima," and "Down the Trail." This is a clear case of all prizes and no blanks!

Good and Strong.

All reports agree that Gus Harris is going good and strong in his new comedy song, "I Was Out Late Last Night."

Again the Duet!

In C. A. Stephenson's panto., "Cinderella," "Linger a Little Longer" is splendidly worked by Mona Mark and Marie Clarke. "Down Yonder" is also included and makes a fine concerted number.

With "The Babes" at Balham.

We visited Balham Hippodrome and witnessed Wallie Rice and Herbert Barnes' fine production of "The Babes in the Wood." "Premierland" selection was played; Madeline Selwyn, principal boy, sang "Down the Trail"; Anna Thayer, principal girl, gave "Mammy's Arms"; and Dame Willie Hicks submitted that laughter-raiser, "Touch the Harp Gently, My Pretty Louise." Verdict—a rattling good show!

FELDMANISM——THE STUFF TO GI'E 'EM.

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